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Friday, August 27, 1976
Bhadra 5, 1898 (Saka)

LOK SABHA DEBATES

(Seventeenth Session)

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LOK SABHA

Friday, August 27, 1976/Bhadra 5, 1898 (Saka)

The Lok Sabha met at Eleven of the Clock

[MR. SPEAKER *in the Chair*]

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

Export of Processed Vegetables and Fruits

*243. SHRI D. D. DESAI: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether India has achieved great success in exporting preserved or processed vegetables and fruits as also livestock to Persian Gulf countries;

(b) if so, the facts thereof; and

(c) whether Government expect further improvement in this regard and propose to help these industrial units to increase their exports?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) A statement is placed on the Table of the House.

(c) Yes, Sir.

Statement

Export of live animals, processed fruits and processed vegetables to Abu Dhabi, Bahrain, Dubai, Kuwait, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Muscat, Yemen Aram Republic, Lebanon, Iran, Iraq and Jordan during 1973-74; 1974-75 and April-December, 1975 are as under:

Value in Rs. Lakhs

	1973-74	1974-75	April-Dec. 1975
Live animals	5.44	1.04	13·71
Processed fruits	30·88	86·03	155·22
Processed vegetables	26·77	38·63	60·13
	63·09	125·70	189·06

SHRI D D DESAI: The hon Minister has seen that exports have gone up by nearly 400 per cent during the last two years I would request him to say whether the industries are being provided with tin plates, banking facilities and credit facilities in respect of which the Export Promotion Council has already written to the Ministry and to the Reserve Bank, and also shipping accommodation for transport of fresh fruits and vegetables as also processed fruits and vegetables in respect of which there has been some hesitation on the part of certain liners in accepting cargo

SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH Regarding tin plates for the industry, as part of the replenishment, we allow packing material to be imported As mentioned by the hon member, due to the sudden spurt in our exports, there was a shortage of this tin material for packaging, because SAIL is the canalising agency The matter has been taken up with SAIL

With regard to shipping and banking, we on our part are in consultation with the shipping ministry There are sometimes difficulties for perishable goods to be exported This matter is under constant review and government will take a decision on merits

SHRI D D DESAI Acute shortage of water and drought conditions exist in many countries and so the supply in many of the countries is scarce India has plenty of water Would not the ministry consider taking steps to see that the grand opportunity offered to this country to enter in a big way is utilised by the provision of the needed facilities? I want to know whether specific arrangements would be made to cater to the large requirements

SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH It is true that due to shortage of certain edible items, we had an opening in the market and steps were taken by the government to take advantage of the situation a sales team was sent in May 1976 to the gulf countries For canned items for which sugar is required, sugar is provided at levy price Other facilities such as railway freight concession, cash compensatory support to take care of duty imposed are given The hon Member is aware of various items on which these are given Quotas for sheep and goats have been increased considerably, last year it was 30,000 and now it is two or four lakhs, it is in lakhs, buffaloes which were not exported till now have been allowed to be exported from 31 5 1976

SHRI K LAKKAPPA We are having a flourishing market in the Gulf countries so far as processed fruits and vegetables are concerned But infrastructure has to be developed for growing more vegetables and processing them in places like Bangalore in southern India Difficulties are felt due to lack of transport facilities and other infra structure for export, fruits and vegetables have been stagnating What steps have been taken by the Ministry to see that those facilities are provided especially in places like Bangalore in Karnataka state?

SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH We did receive reports regarding accumulation of handloom garments and requesting help in air freight and facilities for transport by air We have not received any report of accumulation of fruits and vegetables due to lack of transport

SHRI RAM GOPAL REDDY May I know whether while the transporting animals any death occurred during transit? Secondly the value has gone up to Rs 1 88 crores Is it because the price has gone up or is it because we have exported more quantities?

SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH We have no confirmed reports about death of livestock It may be seen that compared to last year, there is a growth of 13 times this year—from Rs 1 04 lakhs in 1974-75 to Rs 13 71 lakhs during April-December this year

SHRI DHAMANKAR: May I know whether the government is aware of the fact that huge stocks of onion are lying and they are getting spoiled, particularly in Nasik district of Maharashtra, due to want of proper facilities and encouragement for export?

SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH: The question relates to preserved and processed food and vegetables. So far as dehydrated onion exports are concerned, they increased from Rs. 16 lakhs in 1973-74 to Rs. 84 lakhs in 1974-75. However, there has been a little fall in 1975-76.

Tea Plantations in West Bengal and Assam

*245. DR. RANEN SEN: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether in 1975 and upto 1976 July the tea export has considerably improved;

(b) if so, the facts thereof;

(c) the steps Government have taken to improve tea plantations in West Bengal and Assam;

(d) whether Government have given any financial aid to sick tea gardens in West Bengal and Assam; and

(e) if so, the facts thereof?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (PROF. D P. CHATTOPADHYAYA): (a) to (e). A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

(a) and (b). Export earnings from tea have considerably increased during the last two years as a result of improvement in unit export values as will be evident from the following:—

Year	Quantity (M. Kgs.)	Value (Rs./crores)	Unit Price (Rs./Kg.)
1973	188·19	142·71	7·58
1974	205·91	188·81	9·17
1975	218·10	244·63	11·22
1976* (Jan.-June)	76·54	89·32	11·67
1975 (Jan.-June)	83·99	92·31	10·99

*Provisional.

(c) Since 1960-61 Tea Board is operating a number of financial assistance schemes for the development of tea industry all over India. The Schemes include Plantation Finance, Tea Machinery & Irrigation Equipment Hire Purchase, Replantation Subsidy and the recently introduced rejuvenation subsidy scheme which is applicable to hilly areas only. The Tea Board also looks after supply of inputs like fertiliser, pesticides, weedicides, coal, furnace oil etc. in required quantities to tea gardens. Training facilities are available at the Tea Research Station to which the Tea Board makes annual grant. The Board also gives financial

assistance to the Assam Agricultural University to run a special course on tea.

(d) and (e). The Tea Act, 1953 has been amended to enable the Government to take measures with a view to rehabilitating sick and closed tea gardens. The process of identification and collection of information in respect of tea estate which can be considered for investigation/take-over has been initiated and the action for rehabilitation as necessary will be determined in terms of relevant provisions of the Tea (Amendment) Act, 1976.

DR. RANEN SEN: Before putting my supplementaries, I would draw your attention to part (d) of my question, namely, whether Government have given any financial aid to sick tea gardens etc. The reply is, "The Tea Act has been amended to enable the Government to take measures.." etc. I want to know what steps they have taken to help the sick gardens.

PROF. D. P. CHATTOPADHYAYA: The Tea Board is operating several development schemes and all things being equal, the more deserving units, i.e. sick units, are entitled to tea plantation finance scheme, replantation subsidy scheme, modernisation of the factories and also for improving the service quality of the existing factories. We also give assistance for rejuvenation, pruning, etc. From the tea plantation finance scheme, we have given Rs. 635 lakhs assistance to 148 units in Assam and Rs. 246 lakhs to 68 units in West Bengal. Under the tea machinery and irrigation equipment hire purchase schemes, we have given assistance to the tune of Rs. 650 lakhs to 324 units in Assam. We have given Rs. 420 lakhs to 220 units in West Bengal. Under Replantation Subsidy Scheme, 964 assistance applications have been cleared in Assam. That shows that we are giving help. All the help does not necessarily go to the sick units, but as I said, sick units deserve more and their claims are taken care of.

DR. RANEN SEN: We find from the statement that since 1973 onwards, the quantity of export is growing, the value is growing and the unit price is also increasing, but still many gardens in West Bengal and Assam have fallen sick. Has the government gone into the reasons for this?

PROF. D. P. CHATTOPADHYAYA: As I have already said, and as the hon. Member has also pointed out, our quantity of export has gone up from 205 million kg in 1974 to 218 million kg in 1975, our export earnings from Rs. 188 crores in 1974 to Rs. 244 crores in 1975 and unit value realisation from Rs. 9.17 per kg in 1974 to Rs. 11.22 per kg in 1975. The question is why even then some gardens have fallen sick. I would like to say that all gardens are obviously not sick. When a survey was carried out by the Tea Board in July 1972, about 125 units claimed themselves to be sick. Sometimes they claim to be sick in order to become eligible for some assistance. Though they all claim to be sick, all of them are not necessarily sick. A subsequent enquiry, carried out at our initiative in 1975, indicates that 43 units, and not 125 as claimed by the industry, are either sick or closed, 17 in Assam and 26 in West Benga. The main reasons are: over-capitalisation, poor labour management relations, misapplication of funds, unscientific agricultural practices etc.

DR. RANEN SEN: The production of tea has increased and the price has gone up very high. In the Calcutta auctions very recently one kilogram of of Darjeeling tea was sold at Rs. 299. In spite of that, the Darjeeling tea-gardens are the worst sick or in the worst position. Taking advantage of this boom in the tea industry, certain unscrupulous people are trying to capture the tea plantations. For example, the Assam Frontier Tea Estate, which is a Sterling Company, has ten tea gardens. Now certain companies are trying to grab these tea gardens, and the Assam Tea Corporation, run by the Assam Government, was not

allowed to take over these tea gardens. Many such examples can be given in West Bengal also. May I know whether the Government are aware of these transactions in the tea plantations by which the smaller guys are eaten by the bigger guys?

PROF. D. P. CHATTOPADHYAYA: I have myself stated that one of the reasons for the sickness evident in the tea plantation industry is mismanagement. We have to see how to prevent or minimise the sickness in the industry. Regarding smaller and bigger guys, if managerial competence, financial capability and other things are equal, we always have preference for smaller guys. If a public sector corporation or a co-operative society is interested to purchase some tea gardens, other things being equal, preference would be given to it.

SHRI KRISHNA CHANDRA HALDER: The Minister in his reply has stated that more and more tea gardens are becoming sick due to mismanagement etc. Tea is one of the best foreign exchange earners in the country. So, I would like to know whether Government is going to take over or nationalise these tea gardens.

MR. SPEAKER: I think that should not be raised during the Question Hour. It is a question of policy. You know the answer. You can ask for information.

SHRI KRISHNA CHANDRA HALDER: May I know whether Government is going to take penal measures against those who exploit these gardens in a haphazard and unscientific manner?

PROF. D. P. CHATTOPADHYAYA: In respect of the gardens that we propose to take over, unless the documents seized are scrutinised we cannot say whether they have gone wrong and to what extent, because it will be saying something offhand, and that will not be fair. We are not very kind and lenient to them. What is more, I have said on more than one occasion before the House that these gardens will never be given back to the people who are found to be responsible for making them sick.

SHRI B. K. DASCHOWDHURY: So many measures have been taken by the Commerce Ministry and the Tea Board, but the evils of the tea gardens and plantations are not being removed, with particular reference to Darjeeling tea. Darjeeling tea is a prestigeous tea in the world, but the tea plantations in Darjeeling are the worst sufferers in the world. I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether it is a fact that the Darjeeling tea labourers are getting lesser in comparison with the tea garden labourers of other areas and whether it is also a fact that the production per hectare in the Darjeeling plantation areas is much less? In view of this, may I know what further incentive the hon. Minister is going to contemplate for improvement of the tea plantations in the Darjeeling area?

PROF. D. P. CHATTOPADHYAYA: I find that the yield per hectare is going up in Assam and in West Bengal.

SHRI B. K. DASCHOWDHURY: In Darjeeling?

PROF. D. P. CHATTOPADHYAYA: We do not have district-wise break-up just now but State-wise.

SHRI B. K. DASCHOWDHURY: Darjeeling teas are separate.

PROF. D. P. CHATTOPADHYAYA: He is a Member of he Tea Board, and in many respects he is more informed than I am.

In Assam, in 1972 the per hectare yield was 1,298 kg. In 1973 it went up to 1,360 and in 1974 to 1416. In West Bengal, in 1972 it was 1,226 kg. Next year it went up to 1,241 and the next year to 1,338. So, it is going up. Darjeeling is a very prestigeous tea. Some people are fond of good tea and

good flavour, so they take it. There is no discrimination so far as policy is concerned. Labour, as you will kindly remember, rests with the State Government.

Recruitment Rules in Banks

*247. SHRI P R SHENOY Will the Minister of REVENUE AND BANKING be pleased to state

(a) whether there are no uniform rules of recruitment in the nationalised banks; and

(b) if so, whether Government propose to frame uniform rules for recruitment in banks?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN CHARGE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE & BANKING (SHRI PRANAB KUMAR MUKHERJEE) (a) and (b) A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

(a) and (b) The staff in the Nationalised Banks in broadly of 3 categories—Officers, clerical and subordinate The recruitment for officer staff is done in the banks on an all India basis, after calling for applications through advertisements in newspapers and candidates are selected after a written test and an interview Clerical recruitment is generally done on a regional basis after notifying the vacancies to the Employment Exchange and also simultaneously issuing local advertisements for the recruitment The selection of candidates for clerical posts is made after a written test followed by an interview of the candidates who qualify in the written test. Recruitment to the subordinate staff is through the Employment Exchanges. While recruitment procedure in broad terms are similar, there are variations in rules among the banks regarding the age, qualification and qualifying standards as well as the selection process prescribed for recruitment.

The Banking Commission which among other things, was asked to review the existing arrangements relating to recruitment and manpower planning in the banking industry has in its report recommended the setting up of a statutory common recruitment agency to be called the "National Banking Service Commission' with membership, functions, etc. on the lines of the Union Public Service Commission for recruitment of staff in public sector banks both at the clerical and junior officers level. It has also recommended the adoption of certain uniform procedures relating to the sources of recruitment, qualification including age and other eligibility criteria and the selection process.

In pursuance of the recommendation of the Banking Commission, the Banking Service Commission Act has already been enacted After the setting up of the Banking Service Commission shortly, standardised procedures for recruitment in public sector banks will be introduced

SHRI P R SHENOY In some of the nationalised banks vacancies are filled up without any advertisements, and in some others there are advertisements but the vacancies are filled up ignoring the advertisements made by them In view of this, may I know whether there is any proposal to give suitable directions to the Banks to make proper advertisements before filling up the vacancies?

SHRI PRANAB KUMAR MUKHERJEE So far as the direction and the general guideline is concerned, it is already there But if any particular Bank is at fault we shall have to look into it In fact, in this connection, I would like to mention that some of the hon Members have drawn our attention to certain irregularities in respect of some Banks. We are already looking into the matter.

SHRI P. R. SHENOY: I can bring to the notice of the Government at least one Bank, the Syndicate Bank, which

in my constituency. It is not advertising the posts in all cases.

Secondly, in some Banks, for clericals posts, the SLCs are appointed; in some other Banks, for clerical posts, only graduates are appointed and in some Banks, only those who have failed in SLC can apply for attendent's post. If they pass SLC, they cannot apply for attendant's post. May I know whether the Government has given suitable instructions in this regard?

SHRI PRANAB KUMAR MUKHERJEE: Prior to nationalisation, various Banks had their own recruitment rules and procedures and they laid down various qualifications for different categories of posts. In order to bring uniformity, we have already proposed the Banking Service Commission which is going to be established shortly. I do hope that the Banking Service Commission will take care of bringing uniformity in regard to recruitment of clerical and officers posts. In the meantime, whatever instructions are necessary, they are already there. As I said, if any particular Bank does not comply with the instructions, that will be looked into.

श्री कमला मिश्र "मधुकर": राष्ट्रीयकृत बैंकों मे बहाली की दिशा में समान नीति नही है। बिहार में देखने में आता है कि जिस राज्य का मैनेजीरियल स्टाफ़ होता है वह उसी राज्य के लोगों की बहाली कर लेता है क्लास 3 और क्लास 4 में। मैं जानना चाहता हूं कि क्लास 1 और 2 के पदों को छोड़ करके क्लास 3 और क्लास 4 के पदों पर स्थानीय लोगों की ही बहाली की जाए, क्या ऐसे निदेश आप देने जा रहे हैं?

SHRI PRANAB KUMAR MUKHERJEE: It is already in the instructions which we have issued in consultation with the Reserve Bank as per the recommendations of the Banking Commission. As the hon. Member has mentioned, there may be some irregularities. I do admit and I do not rule out the possibility that some Banks might not have followed the instructions. Whenever these things come to our notice, we look into them.

श्री विभूति मिश्र : जहां पर जिस तरह का अफ़सर होता है वह उसी तरह के आदमियों को बहाली कर लेता है। कम्युनलिज्म, प्राविंशलिज्म और कास्टिज्म की भावनाएं बहुत बलवती होती जा रही हैं। यह एक सेंट्रल सबजेक्ट है बैंकों का। मेरे जिले में पंजाब नेशनल बैंक, सेंट्रल बैंक और स्टेट बैंक है। स्टेट बैंक पूरी तरह से सरकार का है। बाकी दोनों का पीछे नेशनलाइजेशन हुआ है। मैं जानना चाहता हूं कि क्या सरकार इस सम्बन्ध में कड़ी हिदायतें देना चाहती है या नही कि क्लास चार और क्लास तीन के पदो पर स्थानीय लोगों की ही बहाली हो और जो बहाली करने वाले हों वे इतने पवित्र हों कि राष्ट्रीय दृष्टिकोण ही को वे सर्वोपरि स्थान दें? अगर ऐसा नही हुआ तो यह बीमारी भयंकर रूप धारण कर लेगी। मैं जानना चाहता हूं कि सरकार इस सम्बन्ध में क्या करने जा रही है?

SHRI PRANAB KUMAR MUKHERJEE: So far as the recruitment instructions are concerned, as regards officers, they are to be recruited on an All-India basis, as regards Class III posts, it is done through regional basis and as regards subordinate staff, it is usually done through Employment Exchanges. The defects in recruitment which the hon. Member has mentioned will be taken care of as soon as the Banking Service Commission starts functioning.

'Earn While You Learn' Scheme of NTC for Students

+

*252. SHRI BIBHUTI MISHRA:
SHRI P. GANGADEB:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether for the first time the National Textile Corporation, a public sector corporation is introducing "earn while you learn" for the needy University and College students during coming academic year; and

(b) if so, to what extent College students have taken advantage of the scheme?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH). (a) Yes, Sir

(b) Twenty-one students have participated in the Scheme so far

श्री विभूति मिश्र : मैं यह जानना चाहता हू कि क्या सरकार इस "अर्न व्हायल यू लर्न" योजना को पब्लिक सैक्टर और प्राईवेट सैक्टर के सब कारखानो मे लागू करना चाहती है या नही। जिन स्टेट्स मे टैक्सटाइल के कारखाने नही है, अगर वहा के विद्यार्थी इस योजना से लाभ उठाना चाहते हो, तो क्या सरकार उन को दूसरी स्टेट्स म स्थित कारखानो मे काम दिलाने के सम्बन्ध मे कोई योजना बना रही है या नही ?

SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH This is a specific question about NTC I can answer about the scheme in the NTC

श्री विभूति मिश्र मेरा प्रश्न यह है कि जैसे बिहार मे कोई टैक्सटाइल मिल नही है, तो क्या वहा के विद्यार्थियो को गुजरात या बगाल मे इस योजना मे लाभ उठाने की सुविधा दी जाएगी, या केवल उन राज्यों के अपने विद्यार्थियो को ही यह सुविधा दी जाएगी।

SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH The scheme relates to institutions There are two schemes operating in the NTC. One is on a daily rate basis where the students can earn Rs. 5 per day by working for two hours only, for this scheme, the boys are recommended through the institutions where they are studying, the designated officer under the scheme has to be appointed by the institution, and the names of boys are channelled through him Care is taken that only boys who are really needy are recruited, and for that sake, a monthly income ceiling of the parents has been fixed, also it has been taken care that the Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe students get about 20 per cent The other scheme is on a commission basis where a student, if he gives a guarantee or the cash deposit, can take the produtcs of the NTC and he will be getting eight to ten per cent commission on the volume of sales

श्री विभूति मिश्र मत्री महोदय ने बताया है कि 20 परसेंट स्थान शिड्यूल्ड कास्ट्स और शिड्यूल्ड ट्राइब्ज के विद्यार्थियों के लिए हैं। उन्होंने यह नही बताया है कि बाकी के 80 परसेंट स्थान किन के लिए हैं। सरकार ने सौ मे ज्यादा टैक्सटाइल मिलो को अपने कब्जे मे लिया है। जहा कोई टैक्सटाइल मिल नही है अगर वहा का कोई विद्यार्थी काम करके पढना चाहता है तो क्या ऐसे विद्यार्थियो को मदद देने के सम्बन्ध मे राष्ट्रीय आधार पर कोई योजना बनाई गई है या नही ? क्या मत्री महोदय ने एन० टी० सी० के अधिकारियो को इस बात की हिदायत दी है– और क्या इस बारे मे कोई जाच-पडताल की है– कि दूसरे राज्यो के विद्यार्थियो को भी इस योजना से लाभ उठाने का अवसर दिया जाए।

श्री विश्वनाथ प्रताप सिंह . मिल का होना आवश्यक नही है जहा हमारे सेल्ड डीपो है, जहा हमारा सेल का एरेजमेंट है, अगर वहा कोई विद्यालय है, तो उस के माध्यम से आने वाले विद्यार्थी को हम स्वीकार करेगे।

SHRI P. GANGADEB: In order to be clear, I would like to ask the Minister as to what is the cost involved per student who seeks to pursue studies along with employment and how it is proposed to be met and whether any subsidy, which is a real financial aid, will be given by the Government to encourage this laudable scheme. If I may ask further, I would like to know whether these students, after learning, will be absorbed by the NTC.

SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH: It is not a question of cost involved. Under the scheme, the existing students who are studying in various institutions, if they want to earn, can take the NTC products and sell them, and they would, either on a commission basis or on a daily basis, get remuneration.

SHRI P. G MAVALANKAR: The Minister has given some details about two schemes which, he says, are in operation. May I know whether there are only two schemes or more than two schemes?....

MR. SPEAKER: Two—he said.

SHRI P. G. MAVALANKAR: He said that there are two schemes which are operated for 'Earn while you learn' students. I want to know whether there are more than two schemes and since when these two schemes have been implemented.

MR. SPEAKER: There are two types of a scheme.

SHRI P. G. MAVALANKAR: I want to know further since when they are being implemented and whether they are being publicised in all colleges and universities, particularly, in areas where NTC have mills under their jurisdiction and may I also know as to why the number is so small—a just 27?

SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH: Since the last two months these schemes are being implemented. There are only two schemes under operation by the NTC, A small booklet containing the particulars of the scheme as also application forms has been circulated to various institutions, universities and colleges.

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Ram Bhagat Pawan—not here.

Shri S. A. Muruganantham—also absent

Shri Rajya Kulkarni.

Guidelines on Ex-Gratia Payment in lieu of Bonus

*255. SHRI RAJA KULKARNI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state;

(a) whether guidelines issued by the Bureau of Public Enterprises on 1st October, 1975 for non-competitive public sector enterprises for *ex-gratia* payment upto 10 per cent in lieu of profit sharing bonus, cover Tarapur Atomic Power Station;

(b) whether the Ministry of Finance issued such directive on the basis of the above mentioned guidelines for drownward revision of the existing scheme of incentive bonus bringing the earnings to 10 per cent in Tarapur Atomic Power Station; and

(c) whether such instructions define incentive bonus to be paid only on basic pay instead of the existing method of payment on total wages?

THE MINISTER OF FAINANCE (SHRI C. SUBRAMANIAM): (a) to (c). Guidelines issued by the Bureau of Public Enterprises supply only to Central Public Enterprises and not to departmental undertakings like Tarapur Atomic Power Station. Nor has any direction been issued by the Ministry of Finance in respect of payments to employees of this unit. The Atomic Energy Commission itself have laid down the policy for payment of bonuses to its employees, con-

sistent with Government's general policy of rationalisation of emoluments in different sectors.

SHRI RAJA KULKARNI: It is good that the Minister has made it clear that the Finance Ministry has not issued any directive to the Tarapur Atomic Power Station to revise the existing scheme of incentive bonus. But the fact remains that the authorities have taken a step unilaterally for which the blame is put on the Finance Ministry.

I am connected with it as an adviser of that Union. There are thousands of employees. There is a productivity bonus scheme. There is no profit-sharing bonus scheme. There was an agreement which expired on the 31st March 1976. On 1st April Presidential declaration came announcing a unilateral scheme for downward revision of the productivity bonus as well as changing the concept of even 'pay' under bonus.

Now I would like to know whether the action taken by the Tarapur Atomic Power Station management is consistent with the policy of the Finance Ministry and if it is not consistent, will the Finance Ministry kindly inquire into it and issue a broad advice to them that this is not consistent with the policy of rationalisation of emoluments?

SHRI C. SUBRAMANIAM: I am not conversant with the affairs of the Atomic Energy Commission. They function on their own and they do not come under the jurisdiction of the Finance Ministry as far as these matters are concerned.

SHRI RAJA KULKARNI: Since the Bureau is under the Finance Ministry, it is responsible for any changes in the service conditions that take place. The Ministry has called it a Departmental undertaking and not a public sector undertaking.

May we know if the employees of a departmental undertaking who are covered under the Industrial Disputes Act and who enter into an agreement for a period of three years, are covered by the service rules of SRs or the standing orders under the Industrial Disputes Act? We would like to know what exactly is the status of the workers in such departmental undertakings? Will the Finance Minister kindly clarify?

SHRI C. SUBRAMANIAM: Perhaps the Labour Ministry may be able to clarify.

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Raghunandan Lal Bhatia—absent. Shri Varkey George.

Import of Coconut Oil

*257. SHRI VARKEY GEORGE: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to import coconut oil from Sri Lanka;

(b) if so, the quantity of oil likely to be imported;

(c) whether Government have received any communication from the Kerala Government requesting the Central Government not to import any quantity of coconut oil; and

(d) if so, the reaction of Government thereto?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH): (a) At present no proposal is under consideration.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) It is not proposed to import coconut oil for the present.

SHRI VARKEY GEORGE: The hon. Minister has stated that he has received representation from the government of Kerala requesting the Central Government not to import any quanti-

ties of coconut oil. The reason for such a request from Kerala Government is mainly due to a news item which has appeared recently saying that the Government is going to import large quantities of coconut oil from Sri Lanka with the result that the prices of coconut in Kerala have fallen sharply. May I know whether such a news item has been brought to the attention of the hon. Minister? If so, why such a false statement has not been contradicted by the hon. Minister?

SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH: The prices prevailing now for the past three months are higher than last year's prices. Cochin Ready price in last year August was 793; now it is 875 This is on 18-8-76 Regarding Kozhikode Milliclean, during last year August the price was 795 Now it is 885. Regarding Bombay white, the respective figures are 850 and 860 Regarding Calcutta-Cochin Centre, the price last year was 950. Now it is 1020 So, I cannot subscribe to the hon Member's view that prices have crashed. About import, I have already made a statement

SHRI VARKEY GEORGE: Even though comparatively this year prices are slightly higher, due to the high cost of production, the prices prevailing at the moment are not adequate to the growers Therefore, may I know from the Minister what steps are being taken to streamline prices for coconuts so that the growers can meet the present high cost of production?

SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH: We have to take on the one side the growers' interest and on the other side the consumers' interest and between the two Government has to strike a balance.

MR. SPEAKER: His question is about the steps taken to stabilise the prices.

SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH: To see that prices do not go up very much for the consumers imports are made whenever needed. This is done to see that prices do not go up very much higher.

Lowering of Interest Rate on Bank and other Credits

*258. SHRI R S PANDEY: Will the Minister of REVENUE AND BANKING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry has suggested lowering of the interest rate on bank and other credits; and

(b) if so, the reaction of Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN-CHARGE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE AND BANKING (SHRI PRANAB, KUMAR MUKHERJEE): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) In view of the current economic situation, no reduction in lending rates is considered necessary at present.

SHRI R. S PANDEY: What rate of interest is being charged by Reserve Bank from Central Cooperative Banks and what rate Central Cooperative Banks charge from primary credit societies?

SHRI PRANAB KUMAR MUKHERJEE: It varies from 7 to 9 per cent.

SHRI R S PANDEY: Is it not true that Central Cooperative Bank is charging from poor agriculturists 14 per cent in some States?

SHRI PRANAB KUMAR MUKHERJEE: This point has come to our notice but it is to be kept in mind various States are there and the Reserve Bank advised the cooperative banks to reduce the overhead

cost. On the one hand we are expecting the cooperative movement to expand and whether we could put in restriction by way of expansion is another matter. But as I said, this point has come to our notice. Reserve Bank is in touch with cooperative financial institutions. Beyond that at the moment it is not possible for me to indicate anything.

SHRI BISHWANATH ROY: May I know whether at the present rate of interest, there is much demand for loan from the banks?

SHRI PRANAB KUMAR MUKHERJEE: Naturally, a huge demand is there. Usually, the banks are complaining that they are not in a position to meet the requirements.

SHRI P. VENKATASUBBAIAH: Sir, May I draw the hon. Minister's attention to the fact that the present rate of interest charged, especially, from the small farmers and medium types farmers on term-lending loans and loans for crop raising is prohibitive—in some banks it is upto 14 per cent, leave alone the Cooperative Central Bank who is charging only 11 per cent, and, in some cases, they charge 9 per cent—with the result, there is a great credit gap and, because of the private money-lenders, the small farmers and the artisans are put to a lot of difficulties. The interest rate being too high, the small farmers and the marginal farmers as also the artisans are not able to take advantage of the credits advanced by the nationalised banks as well as the Cooperative Central Bank.

In that case, may I also draw the attention of the hon. Minister to the sharing of this margin of interest rate.....

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Venkatasubbaiah, this question relates to the representation by the Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry and there is a reaction of the Government. Now, you are going into the entire gamut of it. I cannot, therefore, allow this. Mr. Joarder.

SHRI DINESH JOARDER: Sir, I want to know from the hon. Minister whether the Members of the F.I.C.C.I. have demanded or claimed a series of relaxations and concessions and reduction in the bank rate this being one of their demands. They have also demanded reduction in excise duty and export duty and they have also demanded various other concessions and they have achieved most of their demands in the form of concessions or relaxations.

The hon. Minister just now said that he was not going to reduce the bank rate at present. I want to know whether these concessions are there in other ways also. By not giving the reduction in the bank rate but by giving other concessions of reductions in rates in other items, to compensate their demand, are you going to consider the other items also for giving the concessions?

MR. SPEAKER: His only point is —are you going to consider this in future also—of course, it is perhaps not there presently?

SHRI PRANAB KUMAR MUKHERJEE: We are presently concerned with their demand for reducing the lending rate and my answer is 'No'; we are not going to reduce the lending rate.

Price Stamping Scheme on Cloth

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*29. SHRI D. K PANDA:
SHRI S. M. BANERJEE:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the cloth price stamping scheme has come into force from July, 15, 1976;

(b) if so, whether Government are aware that the present stamped prices of many varieties of cloth are higher by 30 to 100 per cent than what the prices were before July, 15; and

(c) if so, the action being taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (PROF D P CHATTOPADHYAYA): (a) Yes, Sir

(b) and (c). There are Press reports that maximum retail prices stamped by the mills are higher than the levels of prices at which cloth was sold earlier. The matter is being looked into in detail

SHRI D K PANDA: Sir, before I put my supplementary, I feel that this is something exceptional because I have never come across such an answer.

MR SPEAKER: You ask your supplementary Do not go into details Otherwise you will take away the chances of your other colleagues

SHRI D K PANDA: Sir, the answer is just like acknowledging the receipt of a question; the matter is being looked into. This is the first reply we get from the hon Minister It is a serious one This relates to the weaker section of the society who are going to purchase the cloth Though a regular stamping system was introduced on 15th July, the report came out only on 24th July, 1976

Now there is an admission with regard to the reported news as far as the stamping is concerned The price fixed by stamping is far higher than what it was prevailing prior to 15th of July

So I want it to put it to the hon Minister, that not only has it come in the press, but they have taken three steps to fleece the consumer. The price stamped in February was Rs 1.70 per metre of standard cloth; then it went up to Rs. 2.15 in June, and then because of the stamping system, they put the stamp at Rs. 4 15. So they have increased the price by 93 per cent Hence I want to know whether, prior to introducing this system, Government had taken care at least to make a note or to find some means so as to record the existing rates of different qualities of cloth so that we could have prevented this over-stamping or easily detected it and punished the offenders

PROF D P CHATTOPADHYAYA: As the hon member himself indicated, the stamping system was introduced only on 15-7-76, a little over a month ago Therefore, as regards the information about correct stamping or incorrect stamping, if incorrect, to what extent incorrect, we cannot, officially speaking, say without ascertaining and verifying the data Even then, anticipating the possibility, Government have issued notifications forbidding traders, wholesalers and retailers from selling cloth at prices higher than the stamped prices Secondly, I would like to mention that stamping of these varieties of cloth is somewhat different from that of other varieties like controlled cloth where a definite price has been fixed irrespective of the cost of production. These are the varieties not covered by the controlled cloth scheme. Therefore, it depends upon the conversion charge and freight charge because the price stamped for retail sale of cloth produced in Bombay for sale in Bombay ..

MR SPEAKER: The main burden of his question is whether it is a fact that prices have been increased from Rs 1.70 to Rs 4.15, whether the variation has been of that large order.

PROF. D. P. CHATTOPADHYAYA: That is why right at the beginning, I said that we have received certain informations and we are looking into it. But in anticipation, we have issued some notifications. The Ministry of Civil Supplies and Cooperation have also issued stern orders that anybody found indulging in these practices will be sternly dealt with. What I submit is that because of the freight differential, cloth produced in Bombay and sold in Manipur, for instance, will be somewhat differently price-stamped than cloth produced in Bombay and sold in Bombay. These are the considerations I think I should place before the House.

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Panda Kindly ask a straight question. You are asking a relevant question, but you go into a long rigmarole.

SHRI D. K. PANDA: Because it is being 'looked into'. The asnwer to my first question is not at all an answer, because I asked what precautionary measures have been taken to record the previous rates ...

MR. SPEAKER: He will look into it.

SHRI D. K. PANDA: Have Government issued specific instructions to stamp on the cloth not only the retail price, but also the ex-mill price, because then it would have been possible to detect malpractices?

PROF. D. P. CHATTOPADHYAYA: I have already said in answer to the first question that because of the raw material price changes and conversion price changes, it is possible to stamp uniformly a price over a period. It changes. And these are varieties not covered by the controlled cloth scheme. Therefore the industry has some flexibility here for profit because they are incurring loss on others. The Textile Commissioner has discussed this matter with the industry and has come to an understanding that between the ex-factory prices and the last level of the retail price the difference will not be more than 30 per cent.

SHRI D. K. PANDA: My specific question was whether ex-mill prices will be printed.

PROF. D. P. CHATTOPADHYAYA: Ex-factory prices change sometimes. Still the suggestion will be considered how far it is practicable and feasible. We shall look into it.

श्री नरसिंह नारायण पांडे : अध्यक्ष जी, मंत्री जी ने अभी बतलाया कि स्टैम्पिंग के बारे मे जो गल्तियां हुई हैं, वे इन की नोटिस में हैं, जैसे कोर्स क्लाथ में फी मीटर 1 रुपए 7 पैसे से लेकर 4 रुपए 15 पैसे तक दाम बढ़ गया, तो मैं जानना चाहता हूं कि वे कौनसी मिलें हैं जो इस तरह का धन्धा कर रही है और आप उन मिलों के खिलाफ कौनसी कार्यवाही करने जा रहे हैं ?

अध्यक्ष महोदय : उन्होंने कहा है कि वे इस को देखेंगे ।

श्री नरसिंह नारायण पांडे : लेकिन मिलो के बारे में बतला सकते हैं कि कहा कहां से उन के पास सूचना आई है ।

अध्यक्ष महोदय : उन्होंने यह कहा है कि इस को लागू हुए अभी एक महीना ही हुआ है, वे इस को देखेंगे ।

श्री इसहाक सम्भली : ये क्या देखेंगे, ये तो उल्टा उन की बरिटाई कर रहे हैं ।

Guidelines for Nationalised Banks for Implementation of 20-Point Economic Programme

*260. SHRI GIRIDHAR GOMANGO: Will the Minister of REVENUE AND BANKING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have issued any guidelines to different nationalised banks for the implementation of 20-Point Economic Programme;

(b) if so, what are those guidelines; and

(c) the procedure followed by banks to open branch offices in rural areas having no banks to provide rural credit to the economically weaker sections of the society?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN CHARGE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE AND BANKING (SHRI PRANAB KUMAR MUKHERJEE): (a) to (c). A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

(a) and (b). The banks are directly concerned with 12 points out of the 20-Point Economic Programme. The question of providing increased credit under the 20-Point Economic Programme was considered at a meeting of Chief Executives of public sector banks convened by Minister of Revenue & Banking on the 24th February, 1976 in New Delhi where it was emphasised that banks have to take speedy action for implementing this Programme. Banks have been advised to instruct all their branches to remain in touch with the local administrative authorities so as to locate and assist the beneficiaries of this Programme, specially allottees of land and house sites, labour freed from bondage, small and marginal farmers and other weaker sections of the society. Keeping the importance of the Programme in mind, it has been suggested that the follow-up action in each bank should be overseen by a special Implementation Cell at the Head Office of the bank. Banks have also been advised that adequate delegation should be made of loan sanctioning powers and encouragement given to Branch Managers, particularly in rural and semi-urban areas in order to substantially step up the quantum of rural credit. They have also been asked to carry out a qualitative and quantitative assessment of the work done in the implementation of this Programme.

(c) In terms of Section 23 of the Banking Regulation Act, 1949, the Banking Company has to obtain prior permission of the Reserve Bank of India for opening of a new place of business in India. The Reserve Bank of India has introduced a procedure of calling for rolling plans for branch expansion for three years and detailed plans for each year so that these plans may be considered together. While drawing up their plans, needs of unbanked rural and semi-urban centres are given higher priority.

SHRI GIRIDHAR GOMANGO: According to the statement in 12 out of 20 points, the banks are concerned to help the weaker sections. For consumption loans, the banks are not prepared to give money to the weaker sections; they cover only farmers, house sites to the homeless and others. I should like to know whether the Ministry will introduce a scheme and give directions to the banks so that consumption loans can be given to the weaker sections?

SHRI PRANAB KUMAR MUKHERJEE: So far as consumption loan is concerned, we have discussed the procedures and I have mentioned earlier on the floor of the House in order to take care of the lowest strata of society, we would require Rs. 170 crores as per recommendations of the Sivaraman Committee and we

have made arrangement that out of this Rs 170 crores, two-thirds would come from co-operatives and one-third will have to be channelled through certain organisations which will have to be evolved in consultation with the state governments

SHRI GIRIDHAR GOMANGO May I know whether the Ministry is prepared to open regional rural banks in the state of Orissa so the unbanked area will be covered by banking loans?

SHRI PRANAB KUMAR MUKHERJEE We have already some regional banks there

श्री नायूराम अहिरवार अध्यक्ष महोदय, जब से यह बीस-सूत्री कार्यक्रम लागू हुआ है, ग्रामीण क्षेत्रों में दलित, हरिजन, आदिवासियों को ऋण मुक्त किया गया है, अब उनको किसी भी दूसरे मर्म से ऋण नहीं मिल रहा है। गांव में जो लोग छोटे मोटे धन्धे करते हैं, मेरी व्यक्तिगत जानकारी है, मेरे कहने करने के बावजूद भी राष्ट्रीयकृत बैंकों से उन्हें कोई ऋण नहीं मिला। मैं जानना चाहता हूं कि इस के बारे में सरकार ने कौन सी कार्यवाही की है ताकि उन लोगों को ऋण मिल सके?

SHRI PRANAB KUMAR MUKHERJEE About the weaker sections it is true we have not been able to take care of all the population who require assistance

MR. SPEAKER: You are making efforts Next question.

Smuggling of Gold

*261 SHRI VASANT SATHE: Will the Minister of REVENUE AND BANKING be pleased to state:

(a) whether with the steep fall in the international gold prices substantial quantities of gold are being smuggled into the country from Pakistan, Bangladesh and Nepal, and

(b) if so action taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN CHARGE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE AND BANKING (SHRI PRANAB KUMAR MUKHERJEE): (a) Available information shows that there is hardly any increase in gold smuggling through the Indo-Bangladesh and Indo-Nepal borders with the steep fall in the international gold prices However, intelligence reports indicate that smuggling of gold from Pakistan to India has of late started picking up the reason primarily being the high margin of profit involved in gold smuggling

(b) A statement is laid on the Table of the House

Statement

STEPS GOVERNMENT HAVE TAKEN TO CHECK GOLD SMUGGLING INTO THE COUNTRY

1 The Border Security Force which mans the Indo-Pakistan border and is the principal anti-smuggling force armed with powers of search, seizure, and arrest under the Customs Act, 1962 has intensified its patrolling, ambushes and general surveillance

2 Smugglers, their associates and accomplices have been detained under Conservation of Foreign Exchange & Prevention of Smuggling Activities Act, Defence of India Rules and the Maintenance of Internal Security Act.

3. The Customs Preventive machinery has been strengthened and intelligence set-up also geared up for better results.

4. A wireless network has recently been installed by the Customs Department for instant communication about the movement of suspects.

5. Officers engaged in anti-smuggling work are being imparted special training.

6. Patrols have been organised along the rail track from border to Attari and other vulnerable areas.

7. Rummaging of the trains and road vehicles and other traffic checks are being carried out.

8. Frequent meetings are held at high level between officers of customs, State Police and the Border Security Force for mutual exchange of information and devising of effective means for prevention of smuggling.

9. Preventive activities on Indo-Bangladesh border have been intensified and border stations alerted to combat smuggling. The border is being manned by the Border Security Force. A close vigil is being maintained by the Border Security Force and Customs to check smuggling. Preventive Detention under COFEPOSA Act has also been made against smugglers.

10. A separate Collectorate of Customs (Preventive) exists for the entire Indo-Nepal border. Regular meetings of officers posted in the Indian land Customs Stations on Indo-Nepal border are being held with their counterparts in Nepal. The Collector of Customs, Patna, has periodical meetings with Director of Customs, His Majesty's Government, Nepal. Mobile Preventive parties patrol the border. Ex-army sepoys have been recruited in large numbers in the rank of sepoys for preventive duties. Jeeps have been provided to the supervisory officers in the preventive formations. Preventive detentions of smugglers have also been made under the COFEPOSA Act.

SHRI VASANT SATHE: May I know whether it is a fact that in Gujarat certain MLAs are involved in this smuggling racket? They were arrested under MISA for this very offence and they have been released on parole. Is the Minister aware of these activities where even political persons including independent MLAs are involved? What is the government doing to prevent smuggling? It is profitable, true, but is it profitable for the country?

SHRI PRANAB KUMAR MUKHERJEE: I do not know about this specific case, I will have to look into it.

MR. SPEAKER: The Question Hour is over.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

Implementation of Directives under 20-Point Economic Programme by I.T.D.C.

*242. SHRI K. MALLANNA: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government had issued directives under the 20-Point Economic Programme for strict adherence to observe economy in administrative and non-plan expenditure like overtime, entertainments, travelling, recruitments and promotions; and

(b) if so, whether India Tourism Development Corporation has also implemented such directives strictly in observance of austerity?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SURENDRA PAL SINGH): (a) Yes, Sir. Instructions

were issued to India Tourism Development Corporation to enforce strictly the economy measures regarding administrative and non-plan expenditure in the context of Prime Minister's 20-Point Programme.

(b) The India Tourism Development Corporation had issued instructions to all its divisions/units to exercise utmost economy in administrative and non-plan expenditure. Efforts are continuing to be made to implement the various economy measures without affecting the operational needs of the Corporation.

Reduction in Exports of Jute and Cotton Products

*244. SHRI SARJOO MUKHERJEE: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) the causes of reduction in export of jute products and cotton products by 30 per cent and 39 per cent respectively in the current financial year;

(b) the reasons for decrease of imports from Soviet Union by 54 per cent during the period April—June 1975 and increase of imports from U.S.A. by 400 per cent during the same period; and

(c) what is the position of imports from these two countries during the last six months?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (PROF. D. P. CHATTOPADHYAYA): (a) The latest commodity-wise official data for the current financial year (1976-77) pertaining to a single month of April 1976 indicated a fall of about 27 per cent in the value of exports of jute manufactures as compared to the corresponding month of the previous year. The decline in exports may be attributed mainly to competition from synthetics and other producers of jute goods as well as recession in the building construction industry.

Exports of cotton textiles however showed an encouraging performance during April 1976. The major products of this group like cotton piecegoods, millmade during the month increased by 126 per cent and the cotton apparel by about 340 per cent.

(b) During April—June 1975, India's total imports from U.S.S.R. amounting to Rs. 69.15 crores showed a decline of about 54 per cent when compared with the imports in the corresponding quarter of the previous year. Imports from U.S.A. during the same period at Rs. 219.22 crores were higher by about 326 per cent. The large variations in imports were mostly on account of supplies of wheat from the two sources. In the previous year 1974-75 wheat was procured from U.S.S.R. on loan-term basis, but there were no such imports in 1975-76. As against this substantial imports of wheat (and also fertilisers) were made from U.S.A. in 1975-76.

However, excluding wheat the total imports from U.S.S.R. during April—June 1975 as compared to April—June 1974 were higher by 14 per cent, and those from U.S.A. about 47 per cent. The relevant figures of imports for the

period April—June 1975 are given below:—

IMPORTS

	April-June 1975	April-June 1974	(Rs. Crores) % variation of April-June 1975 over 1974
U.S.S.R.			
Total imports	69·15	151·49	—54
Wheat	..	90·88	
Total imports excl Wheat	69·15	60·61	+14
U.S.A.			
Total imports	219·22	51·51	+326
Wheat	147·70	2·73	
Total imports excl. Wheat	71·52	48·78	+47

(c) The trade with USSR is conducted within the frame work of long-term trade agreement, under which annual trade protocols are prepared on calendar year, at a particular period, there may be a variation in imports or exports. Moreover, India's foreign trade figures undergo considerable adjustment at the close of the year, the distribution of export and import figures by different quarters and half yearly periods does not give a fair picture. However, the position of overall imports from U.S.A. and U.S.S.R. during the whole year 1975-76 as compared to 1974-75 has been as below:—

IMPORTS FROM USSR AND USA 1975-76

(Rs. Crores)

	1975-76	1974-75
USSR		
Total of imports	295·76	408·92
Wheat		110·85
Total imports (excl. wheat)	295·76	298·07
U.S.A.		
Total of imports	1269·92	736·78
Wheat	830·95	407·47
Total imports (excl. wheat)	438·97	329·31

Incentives for undergoing Sterilisation for Employees of International Airports Authority

*246. SHRI AMARSINH CHAUDHARI: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether International Airports Authority of India has announced a cash award of Rs 200 for those of its employees who undergo sterilisation;

(b) what other incentives are being given to them; and

(c) how many employees have undergone sterilisation operations so far during the last one year?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI RAJ BAHADUR): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Other incentives offered by the International Airports Authority of India include:—

(i) reimbursement of expenses in full provided that the operation is carried out at a Government hospital/Family Planning Centre.

(ii) Special casual leave ranging from 7 to 14 days depending upon the nature of sterilisation operation etc.

(c) 27 employees of the Authority have undergone sterilisation during the last one year.

Prices of Raw Jute in Eastern States

*248. SHRI ARJUN SETHI: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state the prevailing prices of raw jute in various Eastern States?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (PROF. D. P. CHATTOPADHYAYA): A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

Ruling market prices of principal varieties of raw jute in important Centres of Eastern States

State/Centre	Variety	Rs. per quintal Ruling price
Assam		
Nowgong	W-4	152·00
Bihar		
Kishanganj	W-4	155·00
Murilganj	W-4	154·00
Orrissa	No Arrival	
West Bengal		
Dinhata	W-4	152·00
Moinaguri	W-4	155·00
Raiganj	W-4	158·00
Samsi	W-4	158·00
Karimpur	TD-4	186·00
Baduria	TD-4	176·00

Impounding of ship of a Gulf Country

*249. SHRI YAMUNA PRASAD MANDAL: Will the Minister of REVENUE AND BANKING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the customs authorities impounded a ship of some Persian Gulf country recently; and

(b) if so, the particulars of the goods seized and their value?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN CHARGE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE AND BANKING (SHRI PRANAB KUMAR MUKHERJEE): (a) and (b). No ship flying the flag of any Persian Gulf country has been impounded by the customs authorities recently.

राज्य व्यापार निगम द्वारा चमड़ा तथा चमड़े की बनी वस्तुओं का निर्यात

*250. श्री ज्ञानेश्वर प्रसाद यादव : क्या वाणिज्य मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) राज्य व्यापार निगम द्वारा विदेशों को 1975-76 के दौरान कितने मूल्य का चमड़ा तथा चमड़े की बनी वस्तुओं का निर्यात किया गया; और

(ख) उसके परिणामस्वरूप कितनी विदेशी मुद्रा अर्जित की गई ?

वाणिज्य मंत्रालय में उपमन्त्री (श्री विश्वनाथ प्रताप सिंह) (क) 1975-76 के दौरान राज्य व्यापार निगम द्वारा चमडे तथा चमड़े के मान के निर्यात अनुमानतः 158.65 करोड़ रु० (एफ ओ बी) के हुए हैं।

(ख) 158.65 करोड़ रुपए।

Funds asked for by J.C.I.

*251. SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) the amount of funds asked for by the Jute Corporation of India to carry out its purchasing operations in the current raw jute season;

(b) the amount actually sanctioned so far by Government; and

(c) the estimated quantum of purchases of raw jute with the sanctioned funds?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (PROF. D. P. CHATTOPADHYAYA): (a) to (c) At its Board meeting dated the 31st May, 1976, the Jute Corporation of India had planned a purchase programme of 8 lakh bales for the current season. Government, however, requested the JCI to increase its purchase operations to ensure at least statutory minimum price for the growers. According to JCI's assessment, for carrying out a purchase operation of 12 lakh bales, credit limit of Rs. 46.23 crores would be required. JCI's price support operations will not be allowed to suffer due to financial constraints. To start with JCI had requested the Reserve Bank of India to raise its present credit limit from Rs. 24 crores to Rs. 35 crores. This is being presently discussed between the Reserve Bank of India and Jute Corporation of India.

Financing of Buffer Stocks of Imported Fertilizers by Banks

*253. SHRI RAM BHAGAT PASWAN: Will the Minister of REVENUE AND BANKING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Reserve Bank of India has asked commercial banks to finance buffer stocks of imported fertilizers; and

(b) if so, the amount advanced so far for the purpose?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN-CHARGE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE AND BANKING (SHRI PRANAB KUMAR MUKHERJEE): (a) The Reserve Bank of India has asked commercial banks to finance operations of fertilizers imported by Food Corporation of India on a consortium basis.

(b) The amount outstanding on this account under the cash credit limit was Rs. 34 crores as on 2nd August, 1976

Instructions to Public Financial Institutions to cut down Assistance to Industries having Idle Capacity

*254. SHRI S. A. MURUGANANTHAM: Will the Minister of REVENUE AND BANKING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have issued instructions to public financial institutions for cutting down their assistance to industries which either already have idle capacity or are likely to have it; and

(b) if so, the gist thereof and the measures being taken to detect such industries?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN-CHARGE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE AND BANKING (SHRI PRANAB KUMAR MUKHERJEE): (a) and (b). Government have not issued instructions to the all-India public financial institutions for cutting down their assistance to industries which either already have idle capacity or are likely to have it.

In assessing techno-economic viability of project applying for financial assistance, the public financial institutions take into account the likely demand and supply situation including capacity installed and likely to be installed as also the prevailing

level of utilisation of the installed capacity and reasons thereof. Preference is given to fuller utilisation of capacity already installed rather than to creation of new capacity.

Increase in Foreign Exchange Reserves

256. SHRI RAGHUNANDAN LAL BHATIA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there has been a record leap in India's foreign exchange reserves in May and June, 1976;

(b) if so, the facts thereof; and

(c) whether this increase in foreign exchange reserves will be maintained in the coming months?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI C. SUBRAMANIAM): (a) and (b). The foreign exchange reserves increased by Rs. 267.51 crores in May and by Rs. 139.10 crores in June, 1976 respectively but these were not record increases.

(c) It is difficult to say whether there will be successive increases of this order in the foreign exchange reserves since that would depend mainly on continued buoyancy of export earnings and inward remittances as compared to the size of payments for essential imports, debt servicing, etc.

अफीम का डोडा चूरा

1740. श्री भागीरथ भंवर : क्या राजस्व और बैंकिंग मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि

(क) इस समय अफीम के डोडा चूरा का उपयोग किन प्रकार किया जाता है; और

(ख) क्या मध्य प्रदेश में अफीम के डोडा चूरा के कोई उद्योग चल रहे हैं ?

राजस्व और बैंकिंग विभाग के प्रभारी राज्य मंत्री (श्री प्रणव कुमार मुखर्जी) :

(क) अफीम के डोंड का चूरा अर्थात् पीसे हुए अथवा चूर्ण बनाए गए पोस्त के चीरा लगे डोडों को वर्तमान में निम्नलिखित प्रयोजनार्थ इस्तेमाल किया जा रहा है :—

(i) औषधि की देशी प्रणाली में, खाने और बाहर लगाने दोनों प्रकार के उपयोगों के लिए ;

(ii) खाद संबंधी प्रयोजनो के लिए ; और

(iii) चिकित्सा और वैज्ञानिक प्रयोजनों के लिए एल्कालायड निकालने के निमित्त विदेशों को निर्यात के लिए ;

(ख) मध्य प्रदेश में इस प्रकार चलाए जा रहे अफीम डोडा चूरा उद्योगों के बारे में सरकार के पास कोई सूचना नहीं है ।

मध्य प्रदेश में आयकर अधिकारियों द्वारा बरामद किए गए आभूषण

1741. श्री गंगा चरण दीक्षित : क्या राजस्व और बैंकिंग मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या जनवरी, 1976 से 30 जून, 1976 तक की अवधि के दौरान मध्य प्रदेश में मारे गए छापों के दौरान आयकर अधिकारियो ने आभूषण बरामद किए थे ; और

(ख) यदि हां, तो उनका कुल मूल्य कितना है ?

राजस्व और वित्त विभाग के प्रभारी राज्य मंत्री (श्री प्रणब कुमार मुखर्जी): (क) और (ख) . मध्य प्रदेश के आयकर आयुक्तों के अधिकार क्षेत्रों में 1 जनवरी से 30 जून, 1976 तक की अवधि में आयकर अधिकारियों द्वारा की गई तलाशी तथा अभिग्रहण की कार्यवाहियों के कारण 20.3 लाख रु० से अधिक मूल्य के आभूषण पकड़े गए हैं।

Political Parties Assessed for Income Tax

1742. SHRI MURASOLI MARAN: Will the Minister of REVENUE AND BANKING be pleased to state:

(a) whether political parties represented in the Parliament have been assessed for income-tax;

(b) if so, the tax assessed and paid by each of them during the past two years;

(c) whether election funds collected by them are also subjected to income tax; and

(d) if so, the tax assessed and paid by each of the parties during the past two years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN-CHARGE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE AND BANKING (SHRI PRANAB KUMAR MUKHERJEE): (a) to (d). The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House as early as possible.

Investment of Part of Impounded D.A. in Small Savings Schemes

1743. SHRI RAM PRAKASH: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether in a conference of Finance Ministers of Northern States, workers in the organised sector have been asked to invest in small savings schemes at least 25 per cent of the first instalment of the impounded wages and D.A. which was due to be paid in July;

(b) whether farmers have also been urged to invest in small savings; and

(c) if so, the salient features of this scheme?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHATGI): (a) In the Conference of Finance Ministers of Northern States held for discussing generally the measures for strengthening the Small Savings Movement, it was decided to appeal to employees and workers all over the country to invest in small savings at least 25 per cent of the first instalment of impounded D.A. which will be repaid to them in the current year.

(b) and (c). It was also decided in the meeting to approach the farmers systematically through co-operative marketing committees/societies or co-operative banks connected with the farmers and persuade them to invest in small savings. The co-operative societies/banks are also being requested to become agents and canvass among farmers for investment in small savings.

Fall in the Production of Natural Rubber Latex Foam

1744. SHRI VAYALAR RAVI: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have assessed the quantum of fall of natural

rubber latex foam production in the country during the last three years; and

(b) if so, the extent thereof and the reasons for the same?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH): (a) and (b). The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Construction of Cottages in Kovalam Beach

1745 SHRI C JANARDHANAN: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have any proposal under consideration to construct some cheap rent cottages and make other arrangements at Kovalam beach so as to enable the common people also to entertain themselves and enjoy the beauty of the beach; and

(b) if so, the main features thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SURENDRA PAL SINGH): (a) and (b). The Kerala Tourism Development Corporation propose to put up accommodation and other facilities for middle income group tourists at Vellar in the Kovalam beach development area. To begin with, the Kerala Tourism Development Corporation will provide a restaurant/snack bar and changing room facilities The construction of a tourist bungalow will be taken up at a later stage. A large number of hotels in the private sector catering to middle income group tourists have also come up in the Kovalam beach development area. In view of this there is no proposal for the present to construct inexpensive accommodation at Kovalam in the Central Sector.

विद्युतचालित करघों द्वारा रंगीन साड़ियों का निर्माण

1746. श्री राम हेडाऊ : क्या वाणिज्य मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या सरकार द्वारा बार-बार आश्वासन दिए जाने के बाद भी विद्युतचालित करघों द्वारा रंगीन साड़ियों का अभी भी निर्माण किया जा रहा है ;

(ख) क्या विद्युतचालित करघों के मालिक न्यायालयों से बार-बार संरक्षण ले रहे हैं जिसके कारण वे रंगीन साड़ियों का निर्माण विद्युतचालित करघों में कर रहे हैं; और

(ग) यदि हां, तो इस सम्बन्ध में सरकार की क्या नीति है ?

वाणिज्य मंत्रालय में उपमंत्री (श्री विश्वनाथ प्रताप सिंह) : (क) इस सम्बन्ध में रिपोर्टें मिली हैं।

(ख) जी हां।

(ग) हमारी नीति आरक्षण आदेश कठोरता से लागू करने की है। स्थगन आदेशों को समाप्त कराने के लिए कानूनी उपाए किए जा रहे हैं जिससे आदेश कठोरता से लागू किया जा सके तथा इस प्रकार शक्तिचालित करघों द्वारा रंगीन साड़ियों का उत्पादन रोका जा सके।

Rural Banks

1747. PROF. NARAIN CHAND PARASHAR: Will the Minister of REVENUE AND BANKING be pleased to state the likely date by which all

the States and Union Territories in India would have at least one rural bank in each one of them?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN-CHARGE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE AND BANKING (SHRI PRANAB KUMAR MUKHERJEE): Government of India is prepared to establish at least one Regional Rural Bank in every State By the end of March 1977, with the establishment of 50 Regional Rural Banks, most of the States would have got at least one Regional Rural Bank.

Bank lending Diversification

1748 SHRIMATI PARVATHI KRISHNAN: Will the Minister of REVENUE AND BANKING be pleased to state:

(a) how far Government have been successful in bank lending diversification; and

(b) what steps Government have taken to make rural banking more effective?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN-CHARGE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE AND BANKING (SHRI PRANAB KUMAR MUKHERJEE): (a) and (b) Deployment of bank credit in accordance with the overall national priorities and enlarging its flow to the small productive endeavours of the small borrowers has been one of the main objectives of bank nationalisation. Accordingly, public sector banks have endeavoured to bring about a qualitative change in the deployment of their funds in the post-nationalisation period. Their outstanding advances to neglected sectors of Agriculture, Small Industry, Road and Water Transport, Self-employment ventures etc. have increased from Rs. 441 crores involving 2.6 lakhs borrowal accounts as at the end of June, 1969, to Rs. 2321 crores involving 41 lakhs borrowal accounts as at the end of December, 1975. Banks have also extended credit to export trade, the outstanding credit to this sector by all scheduled commercial banks being over Rs. 900 crores as at the end of April, 1976. Public sector undertakings are also being financed by the banks in an increasing measure. As at the end of April, 1976, the Scheduled commercial banks had extended outstanding advances of Rs 1617 crores to the public food procurement agencies and over Rs. 1200 crores to other public sector undertakings/organisations.

Public Sector banks have registered significant progress in channelising credit into Agriculture. Their aggregate credit to this sector has increased from Rs. 162 crores involving 1.64 lakhs borrowal accounts in June, 1969 to Rs 936 crores involving over 30 lakhs borrowal accounts as at the end of December, 1975. Banks are continuing their efforts to enlarge their coverage in the rural areas and increase flow of credit into Agricultural sector through adoption of villages, financing of Primary Cooperative Societies, setting up of Farmers' Service societies etc. Setting up of Regional Rural Banks, in the context of the 20-Point Programme, is also expected to contribute significantly towards providing more effective coverage and ensure larger credit availability to the farmers, artisans and craftsmen in the rural areas.

Raids on Posh Flats

1749. SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE. Will the Minister of REVENUE AND BANKING be pleased to state:

(a) how many posh and luxury flats in Bombay, New Delhi and Calcutta were raided by the income-tax authorities during the past six months in search for tax-evaded income;

(b) total tax-evaded income in cash and kinds detected and seized in the course of these raids;

(e) the *modus-operandi* of the tax-evaders buying and selling luxury flats; and

(d) what follow-up action is being taken to bring the tax-evaders to book?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN-CHARGE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE AND BANKING (SHRI PRANAB KUMAR MUKHERJEE): (a) and (b). Statistics in respect of search and seizure operations are maintained by Commissioner of Income-tax chargewise and not city-wise. Statistics regarding posh/luxurious flats searched are not separately maintained.

The number of search and seizure operations conducted in the charges of Commissioners of Income-tax, Bombay, City, Delhi and West Bengal and the value of assets seized as a result thereof during the past six months ended 31-7-1976 are given below:—

Charges of the Commissioner of Income-tax	No. of searches conducted	Value of assets seized
		(Rs. in lakhs)
Bombay (including Central) . .	230	338
Delhi (including Central) . .	97	84
Calcutta (including Central) . .	184	236

Survey of the bigger properties in posh localities has been resumed in June this year in various cities including Bombay, Delhi and Calcutta. As per information available at present, the number of premises surveyed and the estimated value of undisclosed assets/under valuation reported is:—

Name of City	No. of premises surveyed	Value of undisclosed assets/ under-valuation reported
		(Rs. in lakhs)
Bombay . .	280	82·6
Delhi . . .	103	60·00
Calcutta . . .	40	95·3

(c) The *modus-operandi* employed by tax evaders seems to involve buying and selling of luxury flats in the names of family members from undisclosed income and payment of a part of the consideration in cash, over and above the amount declared.

(d) Action as called for under the law including initiation of penal proceedings is being taken. Wherever warranted, recourse is also taken to provisions of chapter XXA of the Income-tax Act, 1961 for acquisition of properties.

East bound Flights of Air India

1750. SHRI MOHINDER SINGH GILL: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Vietnamese Government have made a special exception for Air-India in not allowing its planes to overfly that country in its East bound flights;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) whether any negotiations are going on in this connection?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI RAJ BAHADUR): (a) to (c). Air India along with eight other carriers got permission from the Vietnam Government to

overfly their air space. However, due to some technical difficulties, the civil aviation authorities of Thailand and Hongkong did not clear this route overflying Vietnam. Negotiations are already in progress between the concerned civil aviation authorities to sort out these technical difficulties.

Foreign Exchange Earnings of A. I., I.A. and Hotels

1751. SHRI K. LAKKAPPA: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) the total foreign exchange earnings from tourism during the year 1975;

(b) what is the break-up of the foreign exchange earnings during the above period by Air India, Indian Airlines and hotels in the country; and

(c) the amounts of foreign exchange earned by hotels classified into different Star categories, separately?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SURENDRA PAL SINGH): (a) The total foreign exchange earnings from tourism including those of Air India and Indian Airlines amounted to over Rs. 150 crores during the year 1975.

(b) The break-up of foreign exchange earnings during the above period for Air India, Indian Airlines and hotels in the country is given as under:—

	(Rs. crores)
Air India (net) . . .	25·3
Indian Airlines . . .	20·9
Hotels	13·3*
Other earnings from tourism .	90·9

*(Provisional)

(c) The amount of foreign exchange earned by hotels according to different star categories is not available.

Export Processing Zone at Dum Dum

1752. SHRI B. K. DASCHOWDHURY: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) the action taken for setting up export processing zone at Dum Dum, Calcutta;

(b) whether the said scheme will be materialised by the end of 1976; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH): (a) to (c). A decision has been taken that the establishment of new Free Trade/Export Processing Zones will not be encouraged. A number of substantive changes have taken place in Government Policies regarding industrial licensing, capacity utilisation implementation of FERA, foreign collaboration and export production which necessitated a review of the general concepts regarding establishment of Free Trade Zones.

Export of Oilseeds

1753. SHRI K. SURYANARAYANA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether in view of the bumper crop of sesame oilseeds (Til) this year in Andhra Pradesh and Rajasthan, Government have permitted or propose to permit the export thereof to Japan and other European countries where there is a demand for it;

(b) the quota, if any, prescribed for export by the private traders monthly or quarterly; and

(c) the guidelines, if any, laid down by his Ministry in this regard?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI

VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH): (a) to (c). The Government has released to quota of 2000. tonnes of sesame seeds and 100 tonnes of sesame seed oil for export during 1976-77. This quota is placed at the disposal of the Joint Chief Controller of Imports & Exports, Bombay and is distributed to private traders on first-cum-first-served basis on production of cent per cent letter of credit.

Proposal to entrust Sick Textile Mills to Private Management

1754. SHRI FATEHSINGHRAO GAEKWAD: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state.

(a) whether Government are considering to entrust sick textile units presently run by National Textile Corporation to private management; and

(b) if so, the names of the units under the National Textile Corporation control which have been or are likely to be entrusted to private management?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH). (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Instructions issued by State Bank of India to its Branches in Delhi for dealing with Representations about Irregularities Committed by Bank Officers

1755. SHRI NATHU RAM AHIRWAR: Will the Minister of REVENUE AND BANKING be pleased to state:

(a) whether State Bank of India, LHO, New Delhi has issued instructions to its Branches in Delhi and New Delhi to file all representations and complaints received from its clients/constituents in regard to irregularities committed by Bank officials by way of payment of less interest, wrong application of different rules for the same transaction resulting in loss to parties and other mistakes pointed out by them and no action is to be taken on them by the branches; and

(b) if so, the facts thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN-CHARGE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE AND BANKING (SHRI PRANAB KUMAR MUKHERJEE): (a) and (b). State Bank of India have informed that no such instructions have been issued by their New Delhi Local Head Office to their branches in Delhi/New Delhi.

Opening of Banks in Sikkim

1756. SHRI S. K. RAI: Will the Minister of REVENUE AND BANKING be pleased to state:

(a) the names of the banks opened by the Central Government in the State of Sikkim during the current year; and

(b) the amount so far advanced to villagers in the State?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN-CHARGE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE AND BANKING (SHRI PRANAB KUMAR MUKHERJEE): (a) Nil, Sir.

(b) The State Bank of Sikkim has recently decided to finance agricultural operations through cooperative societies and has disbursed Rs. 0.17 lakh to one such society as short term crop loans.

Loans advanced by Nationalised Banks in Bihar

1757. SHRI BHOGENDRA JHA: Will the Minister of REVENUE AND BANKING be pleased to state:

(a) the total amount advanced by the nationalised banks in Bihar at differential rates of interest; and

(b) the total number of loan applications pending disposal for more than three months, six months and one year, respectively, with the nationalised banks in Bihar and by each of their branches in the districts of Madhubani, Darbhanga, Samastipur, Sitamarhi, Saharsa and Begusarai?

THE MINISTER OF STATE INCHARGE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE AND BANKING (SHRI PRANAB KUMAR MUKHERJEE): (a) The aggregate outstanding advances of public sector banks in Bihar under the differential rate of interest scheme as at the end of March 1976 stood at Rs. 96.55 lakhs.

(b) The present system of data reporting does not provide for collection of data regarding the number of applications pending with the public sector banks under the differential rate of interest scheme.

Detection of Cyclonic Storms

1758. SARDAR SWARAN SINGH SOKHI: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) the reasons why the cyclonic storm which lashed on the Western coast on 2nd June, 1976 could not be detected earlier, when India has got the latest equipment; and

(b) steps Government propose to take to prevent such accidents in future?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SURENDRA PAL SINGH): (a) and (b). The cyclonic storm was detected from its early stage itself as a 'depression'—on 29th May, 1976. It was kept under constant surveillance using various techniques and equipments. Special weather warnings were issued from the afternoon of 31st May, 1976 through All India Radio.

Contract with Foreign Countries for Supply of Wagons and Rolling Stock

1759. SHRI S. R. DAMANI: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) the particulars of existing contracts with other countries for supply of railway wagons and other rolling stock;

(b) whether agreements have also been signed to lay railway lines in other countries; and

(c) if so, the salient features thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH): (a) The particulars of existing contracts with other countries for supply of railway wagons and other rolling stock have been indicated in the attached statement.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

Statement

Sl. No.	Country	No. of Wagons on order	No. of Wagons already delivered	No. of Wagons to be delivered
1	Iran	492	306	186
2	Yugoslavia	1300	1245	55
3	Bangladesh	500	497	3
4	Zambia	30	..	30
5	Tanzania	30	..	30
6	Sri Lanka	30	..	30
7	Tanzania	17 coaches	Nil	17 coaches
		15 Diesel locomotives & spares.	6 Diesel Locomotives & spares.	9 Diesel Locos & spares.
		5 Steam locos & spares.	Nil	5 Steam locos & spares.

Proposal to fix Ceiling on Consumption of Petrol by Government Vehicles

1760. SHRI N. E. HORO: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal under the consideration of Union Government to fix a ceiling on consumption of petrol by vehicles allotted to the various departments/offices as a measure of economy; and

(b) if so, the broad features thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHATGI): (a) and (b): There is no proposal under consideration in regard to fixation of a ceiling on consumption of petrol by Government vehicles as necessary instructions have already been issued in 1973 in this direction. The broad features of these instructions are as follows:—

(i) Apart from stricter enforcement of the provisions of the Staff Car Rules, Ministries were instructed to restrict the consumption of petrol in Staff Cars and other departmental vehicles, which are not used for operational purposes or for field duties to 75 per cent of the quantity consumed during 1972-73 in a full year. During 1973-74, however, the consumption was restricted to 85 per cent as the restriction was to apply only to a part of the year.

(ii) Consumption of petrol by staff cars on account of official journeys of each Minister and his personal staff will be treated as on official account upto a maximum of 900 litres per quarter and consumption in excess of this limit is required to be treated as for private purposes and has to be paid for by the Minister.

Tea Production in West Bengal

1761. SHRI R. N. BARMAN: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether per hectare production of tea in West Bengal is nearly 100 kilos less than that produced in Assam;

(b) whether the progressive degeneration in Tea Industry is accountable to the fact that many tea gardens have been purchased by those who have no knowledge of Tea Industry and no investment is being made to improve productivity; and

(c) if so, the steps being taken to improve the situation?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH): (a) Yes, Sir. The difference in yield rate of tea in Assam and West Bengal is generally attributable to the agro-climatic conditions.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Tea Board's development schemes *viz.*, Tea Plantation Finance Scheme and Replantation Subsidy Scheme provide financial assistance for extending new areas and/or replanting/replacing old areas. The Tea Machinery and Irrigation Equipment Hire Purchase Scheme assists modernisation of factories or expanding existing factories These Schemes in combination help in increasing not only production but also quality of tea. Recently the Replantation Subsidy Scheme has been amended to cover rejuvenation pruning with or without infilling in hill areas. The Scheme will also assist in improving production of quality teas.

Foreign Brand Names

1762. SHRI BHALJIBHAI PARMAR: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the names of the foreign companies which, in accordance with Section 28 of the Foreign Exchange Regulation Act, have changed foreign brands to the Indian ones; and

(b) the list of foreign brand names particularly in the consumer products which have not been changed so far?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI C. SUBRAMANIAM): (a) and (b). Section 28 of the Foreign Exchange Regulation Act provides that a non-resident or a foreign company or an Indian company with more than 40 per cent non-resident interest, shall not permit use of any trade mark by a person or company for any direct or indirect consideration without the permission of the Reserve Bank of India. Such permission, where appropriate, is either granted or withheld. This Section, however, does not specifically contemplate the change of foreign brand names to Indian ones.

Export of Passenger Coaches

1763. SHRI SUKHDEO PRASAD VERMA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of passenger coaches exported to each country during the current year;

(b) the foreign exchange earned during the above period; and

(c) the steps being taken by Government to boost the export of coaches?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH): (a) and (b): No railway passenger coaches have been exported during the current year so far.

(c) Intensive efforts for export of passenger coaches to various countries are being made. The Railway Development Plans of various countries have been studied and contracts established with them through Embassies, State Trading Corporation's foreign offices and Agents.

Development Plan for Weavers

1764. SHRI P. M. MEHTA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have prepared an intensive development plan for 12 States to cater to the needs of weavers in 42 locations;

(b) if so, what are the States and the locations chosen;

(c) the salient features of the proposed plan for each location; and

(d) the amount to be allocated for each location?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH): (a) to (d): The Central Government have approved the seeting up of 17 intensive development projects and 19 export production projects in the different parts of India. A statement idicating the States and location of these projects is laid on the Table of the House. [*Placed in Library. See* No. LT-11258/76]. An intensive development project will cover 10,000 handlooms and an export production will cover 1000 handlooms. Excluding the institutional finance, the outlay on an intensive development project will be Rs 1 85 crores and on export production project will be Rs. 40 lakhs. The Centre's contribution for an intensive development project will be Rs. 1.20 crores and the rest of the amount of Rs 65 lakhs will have to be met by the concerned State Government. The entire outlay of Rs. 40 lakhs on an export production project will be met by the Central Government. Tht basic objectives of these projects are modernisation of handlooms, training to weavers, providing processing facilities, provision of a raw material bank, arrangements for marketing the finished products and improving the productivity and wage levels of the handloom weaver.

Shortage of Raw Materials in Ivory Industry

1765 SHRI NITIRAJ SINGH CHAUDHARY:

SHRIMATI PARVATHI KRISHNAN:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether ivory workers are giving up their work and going to other works for want of raw material; and

(b) if so, the steps Government propose to take to stop this?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH):

(a) It is possible that a few ivory workers have experienced difficulty in securing raw materials

(b) One of the reasons for shortage of raw materials is the substantial increase in the international price of raw ivory Exporters have been allowed a liberal import replenishment in terms of raw ivory against export of ivory products. The actual availability of raw material depends on demand conditions for export of ivory products. Export of ivory products is being freely permitted but sometimes face restrictions in the importing countries. Steps are being taken as and when necessary to facilitate the development and the smooth flow of the export trade as the best means of sustaining the craftsmen.

राष्ट्रीय कपड़ा निगम द्वारा रुई की खरीद

1766. **श्री हुकम चन्द कछवाय :** क्या वाणिज्य मंत्री राष्ट्रीय कपडा निगम द्वारा रुई की खरीद के बारे में 14 मई, 1976 के अतारांकित प्रश्न संख्या 3926 के उत्तर के संबंध मे यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि क्या प्रश्न में मांगी गई समस्त जानकारी इस बीच एकत्र कर ली गई है ?

वाणिज्य मंत्रालय में उपमंत्री (श्री विश्वनाथ प्रताप सिंह) : राष्ट्रीय वस्त्र निगम की 97 मिलो मे से 94 मिलों द्वारा जो कार्य कर रहीं थीं, 1973—75 वर्षों के दौरान मध्य प्रदेश में विभिन्न फर्मों से रुई की खरीद के बारे में जानकारी पहले से ही एकत्र कर ली गई है। फर्मवार जानकारी का संग्रह एवं मिलान अन्तर्ग्रस्त कार्य की मात्रा के अनुरूप नही है—एकत्रित की गई जानकारी पहले ही 200 से भी अधिक पन्नों मे है। जानकारी का सारांश निम्नोक्त प्रकार है :

1. वर्ष 1973—75 के दौरान मध्य प्रदेश की फर्मों से रुई की खरीद 2,42,851 गांठें तथा विभिन्न वजन वाले 13,331 बोरे थी।

2. 2,42,851 गाठों के बारे मे भुगतान निम्नोक्त प्रकार किया गया था :

3 महीनों के भीतर 75 प्रतिशत, 3 से 6 महीनों के भीतर 14 प्रतिशत, 6 से 9 महीनों के भीतर 4 प्रतिशत, 9 से 12 महीनों के भीतर 4 प्रतिशत और 12 महीनों के बाद 3 प्रतिशत—लेकिन कोई भुगतान शेष नही है :

3. 13,331 बोरों के बारे में भुगतान निम्नोक्त प्रकार किए गए हैं :

3 महीनों के भीतर 83 प्रतिशत, 3 से 6 महीनों के भीतर 10 प्रतिशत, 6 से 9 महीनों के भीतर 3 प्रतिशत, 9 महीनों के बाद 4 प्रतिशत—लेकिन कोई भुगतान शेष नहीं है।

2. शेष तीन मिलों के संबंध में भी भुगतान किसी एक अथवा दूसरी सीमा अवधि के अन्तर्गत कवर हो गया होता।

विदेश व्यापार को बढ़ावा देने के लिए विदेशी बाजारों का सर्वेक्षण

1767. **श्री शंकर दयाल सिंह :** क्या वाणिज्य मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या सरकार ने विदेश व्यापार को बढावा देने के लिए विदेशी बाजारों का गत वर्ष कोई सर्वेक्षण कराया था ; और

(ख) यदि हां, तो उसका विवरण क्या है और इस काम के लिए भारतीय दल किन-किन देशों में भेजे गए ?

वाणिज्य मंत्रालय में उपमंत्री (श्री विश्वनाथ प्रताप सिंह) : (क) और (ख) विदेशों में बाजार सर्वेक्षण साधारणतः सीधे सरकार द्वारा नहीं किए जाते। तथापि भारतीय विदेश व्यापार संस्थान तथा व्यापार विकास प्रतिकरण

द्वारा किए गए बाजार-सर्वेक्षण के ब्यौरे निम्नलिखित हैं :

1. भारतीय विदेश व्यापार संस्थान :

(1) भारत तथा चैकोस्लोवाकिया और हंगरी के बीच व्यापार के विस्तार व आर्थिक सहयोग की संभावनाओं का सर्वेक्षण ।

(2) संयुक्त राज्य अमरीका मे चुनिंदा श्रम प्रधान इंजीनियरी मदों के संबध मे बाजार सर्वेक्षण ।

(3) मैक्सिको तथा ब्राजील के साथ व्यापार के विस्तार तथा आर्थिक सहयोग की सभाव्यताओं का अध्ययन ।

(4) संयुक्त राज्य अमरीका, फ्रांस बेल्जियम तथा स्पेन मे पटसन से बने माल के संबंध मे बाजार सर्वेक्षण ।

(5) थाईलैंड , मलेयेशिया, इण्डोनेशिया, सिंगापुर तथा फिलिपीन मे चुनिंदा इंजीनियरी उत्पादो का बाजार सर्वेक्षण ।

(6) ब्रिटेन, फ्रांस, बैनेलक्स तथा जर्मन संघीय गणराज्य मे जिनेदीन तथा ओरसीन के बारे मे बाजार सर्वेक्षण ।

(7) सामान्यीकृत अधिमान प्रणाली के अन्तर्गत बेल्जियम, जर्मन संघीय गणराज्य तथा स्वीडन में रंग-रोगन, वार्निशों रंजक सामग्री तथा रंजक मध्यवर्ती पदार्थों के निर्यात के संबध मे अध्ययन ।

2. व्यापार विकास प्राधिकरण :

(1) कनाडा मे प्लास्टिक उत्पादों के बारे मे सर्वेक्षण ।

(2) कनाडा मे इलैक्ट्रानिक्स के संबंध में सर्वेक्षण ।

(3) फिनलैंड मे खिलौनों तथा गुड़ियों के संबंध में सर्वेक्षण ।

(4) नार्वे में लकड़ी के फर्नीचर के संबंध में सर्वेक्षण ।

(5) फिनलैंड तथा नार्वे में बिजली के घरेलू उपकरणों के संबंध में सर्वेक्षण ।

(6) बेल्जियम तथा लक्जमबर्ग में साधित खाद्य पदार्थों के संबंध में सर्वेक्षण ।

(7) बेल्जियम तथा लक्जमबर्ग में हथकरघे के गृह सज्जा वस्त्रों के सम्बन्ध में सर्वेक्षण ।

(8) डेनमार्क मे चमड़े के उत्पादों के संबंध मे सर्वेक्षण ।

उपरोक्त सर्वेक्षणों के अतिरिक्त, एक प्रबंध-परामर्शदाता फर्म द्वारा तकनीकी सहयोग हेतु राष्ट्रमंडलीय निधि की सहायता से अर्जेन्टीना, कोलम्बिया और पेरू मे चुनिंदा भारतीय उत्पादों के बारे में निर्यात बाजार विकास अध्ययन किया गया ।

निर्यात संवर्धन परिषदों आदि द्वारा भी उनसे सम्बन्धित उत्पादों के बारे मे समय समय पर बिक्री सह-अध्ययन दल आदि विभिन्न देशों को भेजे जाते रहे हैं ।

Rejection of Import Licences to Industrial Units in Gujarat

1768. SHRI ARVIND M. PATEL:
SHRI VEKARIA:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) the number of industrial units in Gujarat State whose import licences have been rejected by Government during the year 1975-76; and

(b) the reasons for rejection?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH): (a) 729.

(b) Applications which were not received in accordance with the Import Policy, published in Import Trade Control Policy—Volumes I & II for the year 1975-76, as modified from time to time, were rejected. The

main reasons for rejection of these applications were as under:—

(i) Applications not recommended by the Sponsoring Authority.

(ii) Incomplete applications submitted by the Importers.

(iii) Indigenous availability of the items of import, etc.

Price preference to Public Sector Undertakings

1769. SHRI N. K. SANGHI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the price preference which was hitherto being enjoyed by the public sector undertakings with regard to supplies made to Government departments has since been suspended;

(b) whether Government departments have also been given the freedom to make their purchase from the most competitive sources; and

(c) if so, the saving of Government exchequer by way of subsidy that was being given in the form of price preference?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHATGI): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Government departments have all along enjoyed freedom to make purchases from most competitive sources However, as investments in the public sector are made on overall grounds of public policy and there is a need to make the undertakings viable, Ministries, Government departments and public enterprises have been asked to make their purchases from public sector undertakings to the maximum extend possible subject to quality and delivery requirements. In such cases the prices may be decided by mutual consent and should not normally exceed 10 per cent of the lowest quoted price.

(c) Does not arise.

Winding up of Business by Foreign Companies

1770. SHRI SOMCHAND SOLANKI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether some foreign companies have been asked to wind up their business in India; and

(b) if so, the names thereof and reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI C. SUBRAMANIAM): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) A Statement showing the names of 19 companies which have been asked by the Reserve Bank of India under the FERA, 1973 to discontinue their activities is attached. It was not considered desirable to permit them to continue activities in fields such as investment in shares or real estate. In certain cases the Companies were dormant and so they were asked to close down.

Statement

1. Plywood Products, Sitapur.
2. Wallace & Co., Bombay.
3. Breco Ropeways Ltd., Bombay.
4. Marshalls (Direction) Pvt. Ltd., Calcutta.
5. Le Notre (Eastern) Pvt. Ltd., Bombay.
6. Plessey Automatic Telephone and Electric Co., Bombay.
7. Montreal Engineering (E) Ltd.
8. Chickago Bridge & Iron Co., Bombay.
9. Columbia Gramaphone Co., Calcutta.

10. Courtalds (India) Pvt. Ltd., Bombay.

11 Indian Textile Engineers Pvt. Ltd., Bombay.

12. John Wyeth & Brother Ltd., Bombay.

13. Warner Lambert Co., Bombay.

14. Kaiser Engineering Overseas Corporation, New Delhi.

15. Central Gulf Lines Agencies (I) Ltd., Bombay.

16. Michelin Tyre India Pvt. Ltd., Bombay.

17. F. F. Christien & Co Ltd., Bombay.

18. Wyeth (India) Pvt. Ltd., Bombay.

19. Vickers India Pvt Ltd., New Delhi.

Spinning Mill for Hosiery Industry

1771 SHRI DHAMANKAR: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether a decision has been taken by Central Government to set up a spinning mill exclusively for Hosiery Industry,

(b) if so, whether it will be in the public sector or co-operative sector and the location thereof;

(c) whether any assessment has been made of the development of the industry to cater to the needs of the domestic market so that the products are within the easy reach of common people; and

(d) whether any export potentials for the products have been explored and long-term export programmes evolved to achieve a sizeable export turn-over during the next five years?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Efforts are being made to modernise the industry so as to bring the products within the easy reach of common people.

(d) Yes, Sir. Woollen knitwear has good export potential and an annual target by the end of Fifth Five Year Plan has been fixed at Rs. 45 crores.

आयकर विभाग द्वारा निर्धारित 'बुक्स आफ एकाउन्ट'

1772. **श्री मूल चन्द डागा :** क्या राजस्व और बैंकिंग मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या आयकर बोर्ड ने 'बुक्स आफ एकाउंट' (बहीखाते) निर्धारित कर दी है जिसके आधार पर 25 हजार से अधिक आय वाला को अपना हिसाब रखना होगा ; और

(ख) यदि हा, तो किस तारीख से ,

राजस्व और बैंकिंग विभाग के प्रभारी राज्य मंत्री (श्री प्रणव कुमार मुखर्जी) :

(क) जी, नही ।

(ख) यह प्रश्न नही उठता है ?

Re-constituted ITDC Board

1773. SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR SINGH: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state the names and status of the members of the reconstituted Board of India Tourism Development Corporation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TOURISH AND CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SURENDRA PAL SINGH): The names and status of the members of the reconstituted Board of India Tourism Development Corporation are as under:

1.	Lt. Gen. J. T. Satarawala	Acting Chairman and Managing Director.
2.	Begum Ali Yavar Jung, Raj Bhavan, Bombay	Director
3.	Shri N. H. Dastur, Deputy Managing Director, Air India, Bombay.	Director
4.	Shri S. K. Kooka, Chairman, Air India Charters Ltd., Bombay.	Director
5.	Shri Badal Roy, Joint Secretary (Finance), Ministry of Tourism and Civil Aviation.	Director
6.	Shri B. S. Gidwani, Additional Director General (Tourism), Department of Tourism.	Director
7.	Shri H. S. Vahali, Joint Secretary and Chief of Protocol, Ministry of External Affairs.	Director

Surrender of L.I.C. Policies in Calcutta Division

1774. SHRI K. M. 'MADHUKAR': SHRI D. K. PANDA:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that a large number of insurance policies are being surrendered in the Calcutta Division of the Life Insurance Corporation from June this year; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHATGI) : (a) As would be seen from the following monthwise statistics, the sums assured under policies surrendered in the Calcutta Divisional Office were the lowest in June 1976.

Month (1976)	No. of policies surrendered	Sum assured (Rs. in lakhs)
January	1550	97·64
February	1443	90·16
March	1774	95·54
April	1605	96·14
May	1440	83·49
June	1443	80·76

(b) Does not arise.

Indianisation of Hindustan Lever Ltd.

1775. SHRI S. M. BANERJEE: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 1415 on 26th March, 1976 regarding Indianisation of Hindustan Lever Ltd. and state:

(a) whether Government are aware that even while application of Hindustan Lever Limited under Section 29(2) (a) of the FERA 1973 for permission to continue to carry on its existing activities is under examination, various irregularities relating to restrictive trade practices and tax evasions have come to light; and

(b) if so, the consideration given to these developments and the decision taken by Government on the application mentioned above?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI C. SUBRAMANIAM): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Foreign Equity Holdings of Hindustan Lever Ltd.

1776. SHRI S. M. BANERJEE: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the amounts remitted by Hindustan Lever Limited to their principals, Unilever London, during the years 1974 and 1975 by way of dividends;

(b) steps taken by this multinational Company to bring down their foreign equity holdings from 85 per cent to 40 per cent as per FERA 1973; and

(c) steps taken by Government to save this drainage of precious foreign exchange from our country in the light of Hindustan Lever Limited operating in low-technology, high-profit, mass-consumption sector of our economy?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI C. SUBRAMANIAM): (a) Approvals were given to the company by the Reserve Bank of India for the remittance of following amounts towards dividends:

1974 Rs. 100 lakhs

1975 Rs. 71.34 lakhs

(b) and (c). The company has made necessary application under FERA which is under consideration and will be decided in accordance with the guidelines issued for administration of Section 29 of FERA. The company will be required to reduce the foreign equity as may be stipulated by the Reserve Bank of India. The application of the guidelines will ensure the overall national interest.

सरकारी कर्मचारियों को त्यौहार अग्रिम

1777. श्री रामावतार शास्त्री : श्री कमला मिश्र 'मधुकर' : क्या वित्त मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या सामान्य बीमा निगम अपने कर्मचारियों को वर्ष में एक बार एक मास का कुल वेतन या 400 रुपए जो भी कम हो बिना सूद त्यौहार अग्रिम के रूप में देता है ; और

(ख) यदि हां, तो क्या सरकार का विचार रेलवे तथा अन्य विभागों में काम करने वाले कर्मचारियों को उक्त त्यौहार अग्रिम देने के लिए व्यवस्था करने का है ?

वित्त मंत्रालय में उपमंत्री (श्रीमती सुशीला रोहतगी) : (क) जी, हां ।

(ख) विद्यमान आदेशों के अनुसार कोई भी केन्द्रीय सरकारी कर्मचारी, जिसे संशोधित वेतनमानों में 600/- रु० से अधिक वेतन नहीं मिल रहा हो कैलेंडर वर्ष में एक बार केवल 100/- रु० तक प्रतिबन्धित त्यौहार अग्रिम लेने का हकदार है ।

विशिष्ट प्रयोजनों के लिए केन्द्रीय सरकारी कर्मचारियों को मंजूर किए जाने वाले वर्तमान अग्रिमों की मात्रा, जिसमें त्यौहार अग्रिम भी शामिल हैं, को बढ़ाने के प्रस्ताव पर संयुक्त परामर्शदाता तंत्र की राष्ट्रीय परिषद् की हाल ही की एक बैठक में विचार किया गया था । मामला परिषद् की एक समिति के पास भेज दिया गया है ।

Evasion of Excise Duty by Nylon Yarn Spinners in Bombay

1778. SHRI HARI SINGH: Will the Minister of REVENUE AND BANKING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the excise authorities have recently detected leading nylon yarn spinners in Bombay indulging in manipulation of accounts with a view to evade excise duty; and

(b) if so, what are the findings of the excise department regarding the above racket?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN-CHARGE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE AND BANKING (SHRI PRANAB KUMAR MUKHERJEE): (a) and (b). No cases of evasion of excise duty through manipulation of accounts, by nylon yarn spinners of Bombay, have come to the notice of the Government.

However, the Bombay Central Excise authorities have detected some cases in which manufacturers of Crimped Nylon Yarn (Textured Stretch Yarn) indulged in manipulation of accounts with a view to evading excise duty amounting to about Rs 39,733. The cases are under investigation

Schemes in Collaboration with West Germany

1779. SHRI C. K. CHANDRAPPAN.
SHRI BIBHUTI MISHRA:
Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the officials of the Finance Ministry went to West Germany to carry on further talks regarding collaboration schemes with West Germany;

(b) if so, the results of this visit; and

(c) the number of schemes to be undertaken in collaboration with that country and what would be the total investment by West Germany?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI C SUBRAMANIAM): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c). Do not arise.

Orders received for Consultancy Services and Airport construction by I.A.A.I.

1780. SHRI R K. SINHA: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the International Airports Authority of India has received orders in the field of consultancy services and airport construction abroad; and

(b) if so, the nature of jobs undertaken and where?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI RAJ BAHADUR): (a) and (b). The International Airports Authority of India has secured a contract from the Government of Libya for the construction of an airport. This contract, which is worth 12.69 million Libyan Dinars, (equivalent to Rs. 3.6 crores approximately) involves construction of main and secondary runways, a parallel taxi-track and two aprons etc The National Buildings Construction Corporation are the construction associates of the International Airports Authority of India for the execution of this project.

उदयपुर हवाई अड्डा

1781. श्री लालाजी भाई :
डा० लक्ष्मी नारायण पांडेय :

क्या पर्यटन और नागर विमानन मंत्री उदयपुर हवाई अड्डे के बारे में दिनांक 2 अप्रैल, 1976 के अतारांकित प्रश्न संख्या 1899 के उत्तर के संबंध में यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) उदयपुर हवाई अड्डे के विकास का कार्य जिस ठेकेदार को सौंपा गया था उसके 30 प्रतिशत काम करने के पश्चात् ठेका छोड़ने के क्या कारण हैं ; और

(ख) कार्य को छोड़ देने के कारण ठेकेदार के विरुद्ध क्या कार्यवाही की गई ?

पर्यटन और नागर विमानन मंत्री (श्री राज बहादुर) : (क) ठेकेदार को दिए गए धावन-पथ के विस्तार कार्य की प्रगति, उसे

बार-बार चेतावनी देने के बावजूद भी बहुत होगी थी जिससे पता चलता है उसकी उक्त कार्य को पूरा करने की कोई इच्छा नहीं थी। अतः, ठेकेदार को अंतिम नोटिस देने के पश्चात् ठेका मंसूख कर दिया गया।

(ख) दोषी ठेकेदार के विरुद्ध उसकी जमा अमानत जब्त करके तथा उससे 10 प्रतिशत मुआवजा लेकर, ठेके संबंधी करार की सम्बद्ध धाराओं के अंतर्गत कार्यवाही की गयी है। इसके अतिरिक्त, शेष कार्य को दूसरे ठेकेदार द्वारा कराने में लगी अतिरिक्त लागत को भी दोषी ठेकेदार को देय धनराशि में से ही वसूल करने का प्रस्ताव है।

Sick Tea Gardens

1782 SHRI M RAM GOPAL REDDY: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state

(a) whether according to the study undertaken by Government, sick tea gardens can be made viable, and

(b) if so, the remedial measures suggested in this regard?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH) (a) and (b) Prospective viability of a sick tea garden will depend on the conditions prevailing in each case and be studied in detail if necessary by the Investigating Agency to be constituted for the purpose under Section 16(B) of the Tea (Amendment) Act, 1976 Remedial action as required under the relevant provisions of the above mentioned Act will follow thereafter

भारत और अफगानिस्तान के बीच व्यापार समझौता

1783. श्री चिरंजीव लाल: क्या वाणिज्य मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या भारत और अफगानिस्तान के बीच एक नया आयात तथा निर्यात व्यापार समझौता हो गया है ; और

(ख) यदि हां, तो तत्संबंधी मुख्य बातें क्या हैं ?

वाणिज्य मंत्रालय में उपमंत्री (श्री विश्वनाथ प्रताप सिंह) : (क) जी नहीं।

(ख) प्रश्न नहीं उठता।

Value of Rupee

1784 SHRI SHANKERRAO SAVANT. Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state

(a) when and to what extent during 1975-76 and 1976-77 has the Rupee been up-valued and what is its present value *vis-a-vis* major currencies, and

(b) what are the effects of this upvaluing of the Rupee on the import and export trade of India, on India's Balance of Trade and on India's foreign exchange reserves?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI C SUBRAMANIAM). (a) The upvaluations in the exchange rate of the rupee, as effected by the

Reserve Bank, during 1975-76 and 1976-77 have been as follows:—

Date	Pound Sterling Rs. 100 Buying	Selling	Middle Rate (Rs. per pound sterling)
1975-76			
July 2, 1975	5·3907	5·3619	18·60
September 25, 1975	5·4769	5·4471	18·3084
December 5, 1975	5·5315	5·5010	18·1284
March 8, 1976	5.6497	5.6180	17·75
March 11, 1976	5.8140	5·7803	17·25
1976-77			
April 3, 1976	5·9347	5·8997	16·90
April 23, 1976	6·0790	6·0423	16·50
May 29, 1976	6·2696	6·2305	16·00

Thus between July, 1972 and March 11, 1976, the rupee appreciated vis-a-vis the pound sterling by about 9 per cent and between March 11, 1976 and May 29, 1976 by a further 7.8 per cent. The cross rates of the rupee in relation to other currencies are worked out with reference to rates of the pound sterling to such currencies. The rates of the rupee-vis-a-vis other major currencies as at the end of July, 1976 were as under:—

1 Unit of foreign currency	Rupee equivalent
U.S. Dollar	8·969
French Franc	1·824
Deutsche Mark	3·526
Swiss Franc	3·615
Italian Lira	0·0107
Japanese Yen	0·0306

(b) It is difficult to quantify the precise impact of these changes in the exchange rate of our rupee. Our imports from some countries are now cheapers; foreign exchange reserve position has been fairly comfortable and the exports have been buoyant.

Development of Tourist Resorts on Private Initiative

1786. SHRI B. V. NAIK: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to permit development of tourist resorts on private initiative at places of proved tourist potential;

(b) if so, what are the incentives being offered for promoters of these tourism ventures for capital investment and publicity promotion and development of infra-structures and ultra-structures for tourism; and

(c) whether Government propose to stand guarantee for capital investment proposals in this behalf to public sector banks on behalf of tourism promoters and public spirited citizens?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SURENDRA PAL SINGH): (a) Subject to the prescribed area development regulations, private entrepreneurs are free to develop tourist resorts at any place of tourist importance in the country.

(b) The private-sector is encouraged to set-up hotels by means various incentives offered in the form of fiscal reliefs, financial assistance in the form of institutional loans, priority consideration for essential requirements, etc.

(c) There is no such proposal at present.

Proposal to patronise New Hotels in Orissa

1787. SHRI SHYAM SUNDER MOHAPATRA Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to patronise new hotels in Orissa, particularly in Puri, Gopalpur and Bhubaneshwar to boost tourism; and

(b) what help Union Government propose to give in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SURENDRA PAL SINGH): (a): The Department of Tourism only approves hotels from the point of view of their suitability for foreign tourists and all hotels conforming to the minimum standards of service and amenities prescribed by the Department in this regard, are free to apply for this approval.

(b) The assistance available to approved hotels includes allocation of foreign exchange for advertising, publicity, sales promotion abroad and for the import of essential items of equipment and provision. Subject to the prescribed conditions, approved hotels are also eligible for certain tax concessions under the Income tax Oct. 1961:

Training imparted to Pilots and Aircraft Maintenance Engineers

1788. SHRI D.B. CHANDRA GOWDA: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether India is imparting training to pilots and aircraft maintenance engineers belonging to foreign countries; and

(b) if so, the names of such countries?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI RAJ BAHADUR): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Nepal, Tanzania, Zambia and Afghanistan.

Rebate in Excise Duty

1789. SHRI JAGANNATH MISHRA: Will the Minister of REVENUE AND BANKING be pleased to state:

(a) whether excise rebate recently announced by Government in respect of certain items would have any effect on their consumer prices; and

(b) if so, to what extent?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN-CHARGE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE AND BANKING (SHRI PRANAB KUMAR MUKHERJEE): (a) and (b). The Scheme is primarily intended to encourage higher production in respect of certain specified items. It is too early to evaluate the effect of the Scheme on the consumer prices of the specified items, since the Scheme has been in operation only from 1st July, 1976.

Cashew Industry in Kerala

1790. SHRIMATI BHARGAVI THANKAPPAN: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that in the Cashew Industry in Kerala thousands of employees have been thrown out of employment due to non-availability of raw cashew;

(b) if so, the facts thereof;

(c) the extent to which the measures taken by Government to solve the problem have succeeded; and

(d) to what extent the Centre has helped the Kerala State Cashew Development Corporation in this regard?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH): (a) Cashew Industry in Kerala has been facing difficulties on account of shortage of imported cashewnuts during the current year.

(b) Imports from Tanzania and Mozambique could not be made in time due to initial difficulties arising out of short crops in these countries and also due to a wide disparity in the price demanded and the prices considered economic by the Cashew Corporation of India. Agreements have now been concluded both with Tanzania and Mozambique for imports out of the last crop.

(c) Supply of imported nuts out of the contracted quanitiy of about 54,000 tonnes from Tanzania and Mozambique is expected to begin soon; thereby relieving the situation.

(d) The Kerala State Cashew Development Corporation will also get its due share of imported nuts in accordance with Government policy.

Formation of International Tea Promotion Association

1791. SHRI RAJDEO SINGH: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether at U.N.C.T.A.D. Conference measures to ensure stable and reasonable prices for tea exports were discussed at an informal ministerial level meeting of tea producing and consuming nations;

(b) whether discussions were also held about proposals for the setting up of an International Tea Promotion Association;

(c) whether the International Tea Promotion Association has been set up; and

(d) if so, the form and shape of the Association?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH): (a) During UNCTAD-IV at Nairobi, Commerce Minister held informal consultations with representatives of major tea producing and consuming countries to explore possible ways and means of dealing with the problems faced by tea exporting countries, including those of securing stable and reasonable prices.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

Instructions to Public Sector Undertakings to Dissociate from Chambers of Commerce and Industry

1792. SHRI SUBODH HANSDA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Bureau of Public Enterprises Instructed Public sector undertakings to dissociate themselves from the Chambers of Commerce and Industry; and

(b) whether Government have noticed from Directory of Members of Punjab, Haryana and Delhi Chamber 1974 and 1975 editions that several central public undertakings, nationalised banks and public undertakings of Haryana and Punjab continue to be associated with that lobby of private sector?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHATGI): (a) Yes, Sir. Government have issued instructions to Public Undertakings not become members of organisations like Chambers of Commerce and other non-professional bodies.

(b) Following the issue of the above instructions public sector Corporations and Banks have not renewed their membership of the Punjab, Haryana and Delhi Chamber of Commerce and Industry. However, the Directory of Chamber of Commerce still contains the names of those public sector corporations and banks who have not renewed their membership and therefore ceased to be associated with the Chamber. There are some other public sector companies who are still members by virtue of the subscription paid by them earlier. They have informed that they will not renew their membership. Some of these companies are those who became Government companies recently like the Bharat Refineries Ltd and the Central Cottage Industries Corporation Such of those companies who are still members will not renew their membership and in the meantime will not associate themselves with the activities of the Chamber of Commerce.

Case Filed against Shrimati Vijaya Raje Scindia of Gwalior

1793. SHRI B S BHAURA. Will the Minister of REVENUE AND BANKING be pleased to state:

(a) whether any case has been filed against Shrimati Vijaya Raje Scindia, former ruler of Gwalior State by the Collector of Central Excise; and

(b) if so, the facts thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN-CHARGE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE AND BANKING (SHRI PRANAB KUMAR MUKHERJEE): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) A complaint has been field in the court of the Chief Judicial Magistrate, Gwalior against Shrimati Vijaya Raja Scindia, under section 135 of the Customs Act read with Rule 127 of the Defence and Internal Security of India Rules, 1971 for being in possession and control of primary gold given the shape of 'Karas' weighing 49.6 Kgs., in contravention of section 11 of the Customs Act read with section 111 (d) and section 135 of the said Act and also under Rule 127(1) read with Rule 127(2)(b) of the Defence and Internal Security of India Rules, 1971. The aforesaid quantity of primary gold was recovered by the Income-tax authorities on their search of Jai Vilas Palace, Gwalior, and was seized under the Customs Act as well as Gold Control Act.

Operation of Airbus on Srinagar Route

1794 SHRI SYED AHMED AGA: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state whether Government propose to operate Airbus on Srinagar air route by the end of next year?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI RAJ BAHADUR): Indian Airlines have not found it feasible to operate the airbus to Srinagar for the present However, the Corporation will consider introduction of this aircraft on the Srinagar route after suitable airport facilities become available at Srinagar.

राज्य व्यापार निगम में चोरी और गबन के मामले

1795. श्री हुकम चन्द कछवाय : क्या वाणिज्य मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या गत तीन वर्षों के दौरान राज्य व्यापार निगम में चोरी और गबन के कुछ मामले हुए हैं ; और

(ख) यदि हां, तो उनके वर्षवार आंकड़े क्या हैं ?

वाणिज्य मंत्रालय में उप-मन्त्री (श्री विश्वनाथ प्रताप सिंह) :

(क) गत तीन वर्षों में राज्य व्यापार निगम में चोरी के केवल 3 मामले हुए हैं।

(ख) (1) 1975 मे चोरी के दो मामले ।

(2) 1976 मे चोरी का एक मामला ।

इन्दौर में औषध निर्माताओं के विरुद्ध केन्द्रीय जांच ब्यूरो द्वारा जांच

1796. श्री हुकम चन्द कछवाय : क्या वाणिज्य मंत्री केन्द्रीय जांच ब्यूरो द्वारा इन्दौर की औषध निर्माता फ़र्मों की जांच के बारे में 2 अप्रैल, 1976 के अतारांकित प्रश्न संख्या 1876 के उत्तर के संबंध में यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) इंदौर के औषध निर्माताओं द्वारा की गई अनियमितताओं के 19 मामलों की केन्द्रीय जांच ब्यूरो द्वारा की गई जांच का क्या परिणाम निकला और यदि जांच अभी तक पूरी नहीं हुई है, तो उसमें कितना समय और लगने की संभावना है ; और

(ख) किन-किन फ़र्मों के विरुद्ध मामले दर्ज किए गए हैं और इन फ़र्मों ने कब से कार्य करना आरम्भ किया था ?

वाणिज्य मंत्रालय में उपमन्त्री (श्री विश्वनाथ प्रताप सिंह) : (क) और (ख). जांच पड़ताल पूरी होने वाली है और शीघ्र ही उसे अन्तिम रूप दिये जाने की आशा है। इस अवस्था में फ़र्मों के नाम तथा अन्य ब्यौरे बताना जांच पड़ताल के हित में नहीं है ।

मध्य प्रदेश की चंदेरी की साड़ियों के निर्यात से राजस्व की प्राप्ति में कमी

1797. श्री गंगा चरण दीक्षित : क्या वाणिज्य मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या मध्य प्रदेश की चंदेरी की साड़ियों के निर्यात से विगत वर्ष राजस्व की प्राप्ति में कमी हुई ; और

(ख) यदि हां, तो इसके क्या कारण हैं ?

वाणिज्य मंत्रालय में उपमन्त्री (श्री विश्वनाथ प्रताप सिंह): (क) और (ख). मध्य प्रदेश से चंदेरी की साड़ियों के होने वाले निर्यातों के आकड़े अलग से उपलब्ध नहीं है।

मध्य प्रदेश में लघु उद्योगों के लिए बैंक ऋण

1798. श्री गंगा चरण दीक्षित : क्या राजस्व और बैंकिंग मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि वर्ष 1974-1975 और 1975-76 में राष्ट्रीयकृत बैंकों ने मध्यप्रदेश के सभी जिलों मे लघु उद्योगों को कुल कितनी राशि के ऋण दिए ?

राजस्व और बैंकिंग विभाग के भारी राज्य मंत्री (श्री प्रणब कुमार मुखर्जी) : मध्य प्रदेश में, छोटे पैमाने के उद्योगों को सरकारी क्षेत्र के बैंकों द्वारा दिए गए अग्रिमों की बकाया राशि को जून, 1974 और जून, 1975 के अन्त की जिलेवार स्थिति सभा पटल पर रखे गए अनुबंध में दी गयी है। **[ग्रंथालय में रखा गया। देखिए संख्या एल० टी० 11259/76]**

अफीम का निर्यात

1799. **श्री भागीरथ भंवर** : क्या **राजस्व और बैंकिंग** मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि

(क) क्या कुछ देश भारत से अफीम का आयात बन्द करने की कोशिश कर रहे हैं; और

(ख) यदि हां, तो उन देशों के नाम क्या है और इस बारे में सरकार की क्या प्रतिक्रिया है ?

राजस्व और बैंकिंग विभाग के प्रभारी राज्य मंत्री (श्री प्रणब कुमार मुखर्जी) : (क) जी, नहीं।

(ख) प्रश्न ही नहीं उठता।

काश्मीर को पर्यटक यातायात

1800. **श्री भागीरथ भंवर** : क्या **पर्यटन और नागर विमानन** मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या इस वर्ष काश्मीर के पर्यटक केन्द्रों में सर्वाधिक भारतीय तथा विदेशी पर्यटकों का आगमन हुआ है ; और

(ख) यदि हां, तो इसके क्या कारण हैं ?

पर्यटन और नागर विमानन मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री सुरेन्द्र पाल सिंह) : (क) जी, हां। 1976 (जनवरी—जुलाई में काश्मीर की यात्रा करने वाले भारतीय और विदेशी यात्रियों की कुल संख्या 190,512 (178,120 भारतीय तथा 17,392 विदेशी) थी जबकि पिछले वर्ष की इसी अवधि में यह संख्या 107,497 (96,209 भारतीय तथा 11,288 विदेशी) थी तथा 1973 की इस अवधि के दौरान यह संख्या 118,097 (107,744 भारतीय तथा 10,353 विदेशी) थी, जोकि गत वर्षों में अधिकतम संख्या थी।

(ख) काश्मीर पर्यटन केन्द्र के रूप में सुप्रसिद्ध है और केन्द्रीय सरकार एवं राज्य सरकार द्वारा किए गए विभिन्न प्रोत्साहन उपायों ने भी राज्य में पर्यटन को बढ़ावा देने में सहायता दी है।

भूतपूर्व राजाओं और संसद सदस्यों के घरों पर छापे

1801. **श्री भागीरथ भंवर** : क्या **राजस्व और बैंकिंग** मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) आपात स्थिति के बाद किन किन भूतपूर्व राजाओं के घरों पर छापे मारे गए; और प्रत्येक से कितने मूल्य की सम्पत्ति मिली है;

(ख) कितने मामलों में पकड़ी गई सम्पत्ति को अन्तिम रूप में सरकारी सम्पत्ति घोषित कर दिया गया है और ऐसे मामलों में अन्तर्ग्रस्त लोगों के नाम क्या है , और

(ग) संसद और राज्य विधान मंडलों के उन सदस्यों के नाम क्या हैं जिनके घरों पर इस अवधि के दौरान छापे मारे गए

राजस्व और बैंकिंग विभाग के प्रभारी राज्य मंत्री (श्री प्रणव कुमार मुखर्जी) : (क) आपात स्थिति की घोषणा के बाद जिन भूतपूर्व शासकों के परिसरों पर आयकर प्राधिकारियों द्वारा तलाशी और अभिग्रहण की कार्यवाही की गई है उनके नाम और उसके परिणामस्वरूप अभिग्रहीत परिसम्पत्तियों का मूल्य नीचे दिए अनुसार है :-

भूतपूर्व शासक का नाम जिसके अभिग्रहीत परिसरों की तलाशी ली गई परिसम्पत्तियां थी	का मूल्य (लाख रुपयों में)
(i) स्वर्गीय श्री जगत दीपेन्द्र नारायण (कूच बिहार के भूतपूर्व शासक) तथा अन्य	10
(ii) श्री माधवराव जे० सिंधिया (ग्वालियर के भूतपूर्व शासक) तथा अन्य **इसके अतिरिक्त, कुछ जवाहरात प्रतिषेधात्मक आदेशों के अन्तर्गत रखे गए हैं।	99**
(iii) श्री आर० एस० के० आर० रंगा राव [त्रोविनी (आंध्र प्रदेश) के भूतपूर्व शासक] तथा अन्य	4

(ख) अभिग्रहीत परिसम्पत्तियां पर आयकर अधिनियम, 1961 के उपबंधों के अनुसार कार्यवाही की जा रही है। अभिग्रहीत परिसम्पत्तियों के 3/4 भाग का पता, जो अन्तत: ले लिया जायेगा, मगर कार्यवाहियों को अन्तिम रूप देने पर ही चलेगा। इस प्रक्रिया मे काफी समय लगता है।

जिस तलाशी में मूल्यवान परिसम्पत्तियां का अभिग्रहण किया जाता है उसमें तलाशी के बाद पहला काम यह होता है कि छिपाई के आय का सरसरी तौर पर निश्चय करने ए आयकर अधिनियम, 1961 की धारा 132(5) के अन्तर्गत आदेश जारी किया जाय और अभिग्रहीत परिसम्पत्तियों का उतना भाग रोक लिया जाय जो छिपाई गई अनुमानित आय पर कर के कुल दायित्व को (ब्याज और दण्ड सहित) और विभिन्न प्रत्यक्ष कर अधिनियमों के अन्तर्गत किसी तैमान दायित्व को पूरा करने के लिए पर्याप्त हो। इसके बाद नियमित कर निर्धारण का कार्य प्रारम्भ किया जाता है और निर्धारण को आवश्यकताओं के अनुरूप कार्यवाही की जाती है, जिसमे जहां कहीं आवश्यक हो वहां दण्ड लगाना। इसमें सभी की कार्यवाही शामिल है।

(ग) अपेक्षित सूचना एकत्र की जा रही है और सभा पटल पर रख दी जायेगी।

आपात स्थिति की घोषणा के बाद छापे

1802. **श्री हुकम चन्द कछवाय:** क्या **राजस्व और बैंकिंग** मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि आपात स्थिति की घोषणा के बाद देश में ऐसे व्यक्तियों की संख्या तथा नाम क्या है जिनके यहां पांच लाख रुपए के अधिक मूल्य की चल/अचल संपत्ति, सोने के जेवरात, मूल्यवान चीजें, विदेशी मुद्रा, भारतीय मुद्रा, विदेशी बैंक खाते, बेनामी लेनदेन तथा अन्य सामान छापों में बरामद हुआ।

राजस्व और बैंकिंग विभाग के प्रभारी राज्य मंत्री (श्री प्रणव कुमार मुखर्जी) : सूचना एकत्र की जा रही है और सदन पटल पर रख दी जायेगी।

Handloom development schemes taken up in Kerala

1803 SHRI VAYALAR RAVI: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state a brief outline of the schemes proposed to be implemented in the State of Kerala for the betterment of handloom weavers under 20-point Economic Programme and the total amount allotted in this regard?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH): As a part of the 20-Point Economic Programme, the Central Government have approved one intensive development project and one export production project for being set up in Kerala The intensive development project will cover 10,000 handlooms and the handloom production project will cover 1000 handlooms The outlays on the intensive development project and one export production project excluding institutional finance will be Rs 1.85 crores and Rs 40 lakhs respectively The basic objectives of these projects are modernisation of handlooms, training to weavers, providing processing facilities, provision of a raw material bank, arrangements for marketing the finished products and improving the productivity and wage levels of the handloom weaver

Payment of exorbitant prices on Handloom Fabrics

1804 SHRI VAYALAR RAVI Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state

(a) whether the Handicrafts and Handlooms Export Corporation is paying exorbitant prices to its local suppliers of handloom fabrics resulting in heavy losses to the Corporation;

(b) whether Government are aware of the alleged malpractices in selecting the local suppliers, and

(c) if so, the action taken in the matter?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH): (a) and (b). No, Sir

(c) Does not arise

Visit of delegations from European Confederation of Tanners and Footwear to India

1805. SHRI VAYALAR RAVI: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether two delegations representing European Confederation of Tanners and European Footwear Confederation sponsored by EEC had visited India; and

(b) if so, how far it has helped to increase the export of leather goods to EEC ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir The visit of EEC delegation was essentially one of fact-finding nature and as a result of which necessary climate has been created for increasing the exports of leather goods to EEC

Earning of foreign exchange from Australia's Trade agreement with India

1806 SHRI ARJUN SETHI: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state the foreign exchange earned by India through Australia's Trade Agreement with India during the last year?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH): India has entered into a trade agreement with Australia on the 2nd August, 1976 only. The question of quantifying the foreign exchange earned on account of the trade agreement, during the last year, therefore does not arise

Restriction on sanction of loans on differential rate of interest

1807 PROF NARAIN CHAND PARASHAR Will the Minister of REVENUE AND BANKING be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any restriction on the sanction of loans on differential rate of interest in such districts as do not have small Farmers Development Agencies and Marginal Farmers Agricultural Labour schemes; and

(b) whether this restriction is proposed to be removed and the facility of loan on this low rate of interest allowed to the people?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN-CHARGE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE AND BANKING (SHRI PRANAB KUMAR MUKHERJEE): (a) and (b). Besides, SFDA/MFAL districts Differential Rate of Interest Scheme is in operation in 230 districts and 7 union territories in the country declared backward by the Planning Commission.

The benefits of the Scheme are also available to Orphanges, Wowen's homes, and Institutions for the physically handicapped irrespective of the area of their operation.

Licences given by Reserve Bank for opening new Branches by Nationalised banks

1808. PROF. NARAIN CHAND PARASHAR: Will the Minister of REVENUE AND BANKING be pleased to state:

(a) the names of the places in India where licences were given by the Reserve Bank of India for opening new branches by the nationalised banks but the branches have not been opened for over one year, two years and three years;

(b) the reasons for this slow action on the part of the nationalised banks; and

(c) the steps being taken to ensure that all the branches for which the licences are given by the Reserve Bank of India are opened by the concerned bank within a year from the date of sanction?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN-CHARGE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE AND BANKING (SHRI PRANAB KUMAR MUKHERJEE): (a) Information to the extent available is being compiled and will be laid on the Table of the House.

(b) Inability to secure suitable premises and lack of development of *infra structural* facilities are reported to contribute to delays in opening of branches by the banks.

(c) The Reserve Bank of India have reported that licences have a validity period of one year. Whenever the banks indicate their inability to open branches at specified centres further extensions upto a period of 6 months at a time are being allowed to them. In order to ensure that there are no undue delays in the implementation of the branch expansion programme, the Reserve Bank of India have recently decided that not more than two extensions would be allowed on merits In the case of licences at present pending with banks and where two or more extensions have already been allowed, one more final extension of six months will be allowed.

Flights for Kulu

1809. PROF. NARAIN CHAND PARASHAR: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) the duration in the year for which the air flights are in operation for Kulu; and

(b) whether the period is proposed to be increased in view of the fact that this is the only aerodrome in Himachal Pradesh?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI RAJ BAHADUR): (a) Indian Airlines operate

a service on the sector Delhi/Chandigarh/Kulu, thrice a week, from the middle of May to the middle of July and again from the middle of September to the end of October.

(b) The traffic demand to Kulu being seasonal in nature, the Corporation's existing pattern of operations meets the requirement.

Opening of Banks in Orissa

1810 SHRI GIRIDHAR GOMANGO: Will the Minister of REVENUE AND BANKING be pleased to state

(a) the total number of nationalised banks opened in Orissa State so far,

(b) how many of them have been opened in the backward and tribal areas of the State,

(c) the criteria adopted to open banks in the un-banked areas, and

(d) whether Government have issued any instructions to the nationalised banks to open the branches in the rural areas of the State?

THE MINISTER OF STATE INCHARGE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE AND BANKING (SHRI PRANAB KUMAR MUKHERJEE) (a) and (b) Available District-wise data relating to branches of public sector banks in Orissa as on 30th June, 1976 are set out in the Statement laid on the Table of the House [*Placed in Library See* No LT-11260/76]

(c) and (d) While opening branches at unbanked centres banks take into account several factors like availability of infra structural facilities, potential for deposit mobilisation scope for credit disbursal particularly to the neglected sectors Since bank nationalisation the accent of branch expansion policy has been on opening of more branches in the hitherto neglected areas and rural semi-urban centres The commercial banks have been advised by the Reserve Bank of India to include as many unbanked/underbanked centres as possible in their branch expansion plans and pay particular attention to Eastern and North Eastern Regions as also to the districts where the population per bank office exceeds 75,000

Regional Rural Banks in Orissa

1811 SHRI GIRIDHAR GOMANGO: Will the Minister of REVENUE AND BANKING be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of Regional Rural Banks already opened State-wise;

(b) how many of them were opened in the tribal areas,

(c) the proposals for the current financial year for opening the Rural Banks, State-wise, and

(d) the number of Rural Banks to be opened in the tribal districts of Orissa in the year 1976-77?

THE MINISTER OF STATE INCHARGE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE AND BANKING (SHRI PRANAB KUMAR MUKHERJEE) (a) Required information is given in the statement I laid on the table of the House [*Placed in Library See* No LT-11261/76]

(b) Six Regional Rural Banks have their areas of operation covering 11 districts having a good concentration of tribal population

(c) Government have decided to open 15 more Regional Rural Banks shortly The State-wise location of these banks is given in statement II laid on the Table of the House. [*Placed in Library See* No LT-11261/76]

A target for establishing in all 50 Regional Rural Banks by the end of current financial year has been fixed. Since the locations of the remaining 11 banks are still to be decided, State-wise figures cannot be furnished at this stage.

(d) Out of the 4 Regional Rural Banks established/to be established in Orissa, two will have their areas of operation covering districts having a good concentration of tribal population.

Development of Tourism in Orissa

1812. SHRI GIRIDHAR GOMANGO: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government of Orissa have submitted any proposals for the development of tourism in the State:

(b) if so, the main features thereof; and

(c) the allocation made by his Ministry for all round development of tourism in Orissa during the year 1976-77?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (SHR SURENDRA PAL SINGH): (a) and (b). (i) The Government of Orissa sent proposals in January, 1974 for the provision of motor launches at Chilka Lake, Bhitar Kanika and Raigoda sanctuary at an estimated cost of Rs. 4 lakhs; (ii) a request for the construction of a forest rest house at Simlipal National Park was received in December 1975, and (iii) proposal for the supply of a motor launch at Chilka Lake at an estimated cost of Rs. 1.53,500 in 1976. (iv) The Government of Orissa also sought the assistance of ITDC in preparing a master plan for the development of a beach complex at Konarak.

Due mainly to constraint on resources, the proposals regarding the provision of motor launches at Bhitar Kanika and Raigoda sanctuary, and the construction of a forest rest house at Simlipal National Park could not be included in the Fifth Five Year Plan of the Department of Tourism. However, the proposal for providing a motor launch at Chilka Lake is under consideration. The India Tourism Development Corporation have indicated their willingness to render necessary assistance to the State Government in the preparation of a master plan for the development of a beach complex at Konark.

The Government of Orissa also requested the Central Department of Tourism to recommend their proposals for the construction of roads leading to the Lalitgiri and Ratnagiri caves in Orissa, and the construction of a Marine Drive from Puri to Konarak to the Ministry of Shipipng and Transport. This has been done in the case of the former, while the latter is also being so recommended.

(c) The India Tourism Development Corporation proposes to take up the expansion of its Travellers Lodge at Bhubaneswar during 1976-77. A provision of Rs. 10 lakhs has been approved by the Planning Commission for expenditure during 176-77.

Closure of Priyalakshmi Mills at Baroda

1813. SHRI FATEH SINGHRAO GAEKWAD: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that Priyalakshmi Mills at Baroda has been closed since last fifteen months affecting over 3,000 workers and 15,000 persons;

(b) when will it be re-started; and

(c) whether there is any scheme to give interim relief to the affected workers?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH): (a) Priyalakshmi Mills with 1742 workers on roll has been lying closed since April, 1975.

(b) An Investigation Committee to go into the affairs of the mill has since been appointed Any further action in the matter will be taken on receiving the report of the Investigation Committee.

(c) No, Sir.

Advances to Wholesalers by Public Financial Institutions

1814. SHRI BHOGENDRA JHA Will the Minister of REVENUE AND BANKING be pleased to state:

(a) the latest position with regard to the advances made by the public financial institutions to the wholesalers in essential commodities like foodgrains, sugar, edible oils and cloth in terms of the total amount, item-wise, and ratio of advances to the total value of stocks; and

(b) whether it is proposed to tighten the credit policy towards wholesale trade in essential commodities to bring down and stabilise prices?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN-CHARGE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE AND BANKING (SHRI PRANAB KUMAR MUKHERJEE): (a) The available data on outstanding advances of scheduled commercial banks against selected commodities are set out in the attached statement

(b) As a measure of selective credit control, suitable revision in margins are made from time to time taking into account the demand for and supply of the sensitive commodities and the behaviour of prices.

Statement

(Rs. in crores)

No.	Security	Total Outstanding Advances
1.	Paddy and Rice	14·4
2.	Wheat	9·2
3.	Other Foodgrains	18·0
4.	All Foodgrains	41·6
5.	Sugar	151·2
6.	Groundnut	13·7
7.	Rapeseed/Mustard Seed	3·7
8.	Linseed	1·2
9.	Castor Seed	0·5
10	Groundnut Oil	4·4
11	Rapeseed/Mustard Seed Oil	1·2
12.	Castor Oil	6·0
13.	Linseed Oil	2·2
14.	Vanaspati	4·5
15.	Cotton and Kapas	198·2
	Of Which	
	(A) Indigenous	177·0
	(B) Imported	21·2

"भास्कर और जनबोध" के भागीदारों और मालिकों के घरों पर छापे

1815. श्री हुकम चन्द कछवाय : क्या राजस्व और बैंकिंग मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) भोपाल, उज्जैन, ग्वालियर और झांसी से प्रकाशित होने वाले दैनिक भास्कर और सहडोल से प्रकाशित होने वाले जनबोध समाचार पत्रों के मालिकों और भागीदारों के घरों में और प्रेस में वर्ष 1973 से मार्च, 1976 तक केन्द्रीय उत्पादन शुल्क, सीमा शुल्क, आयकर अधिकारियों, सतर्कता अधिकारियों, केन्द्रीय जांच ब्यूरो तथा अन्य केन्द्रीय एजेन्सियों द्वारा वर्षवार कितनी बार छापे मारे गये ; और

(ख) उक्त समाचार पत्रों के मालिकों के विरुद्ध अनियमितताओं के कितने मामले विचाराधीन हैं और कितने मामलों में उन्हें दण्डित किया गया है ?

राजस्व और बैंकिंग विभाग के प्रभारी राज्य मंत्री (श्री प्रणव कुमार मुखर्जी): (क) और (ख) : सूचना एकत्र की जा रही है और सदन-पटल पर रख दी जायगी ।

World Bank Loans for Agriculture

1816. SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) total World Bank loans granted for agricultural purposes during the last three years;

(b) purpose-wise World Bank loans for agricultural development disbursed to each State during the last three years;

(c) total amount of World Bank loans utilised, purpose-wise, for agricultural development by each State during the same period, how far World Bank loans have helped boosting agriculture in each State; and

(d) factors responsible for non-utilisation of a part of World Bank loans by some States?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI C. SUBRAMANIAM): (a) A total of US $ 559.10 million have been committed by World Bank and its soft-lending affiliate, International Development Association, for agricultural purposes during the last three years.

(b) and (c). A statement is laid on the Table of the House. [*Placed in Library. See* No. LT-11262/76]. It is not possible to assess quantitatively the impact of World Bank Loan/IDA Credits on agriculture. However, it may be said generally that the Bank Group lending has significantly furthered development of agriculture through development of irrigational facilities, command area development, farm mechanisation, improved seed production, dairying agricultural education and marketing.

(d) There have been initial delays in implementation of some projects due to time needed to build-up adequate infra-structure necessary for execution of these projects and adaptation to new desciplines relating to provision of credit, exploitation of groundwater, on farm development, etc. Steps are being taken to accelerate the execution of the lagging projects.

Export of Sugar

1817. SHRI S. R. DAMANI: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) the quantity of sugar earmarked for export this year; and

(b) the broad outlines of contracts entered into for the purpose?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH): (a) The total exportable surplus of sugar during the current year will be finally decided after a firm assessment

has been made of the production during the coming Sugar Year (October, 1976—September, 1977).

(b) Export contracts for implementation during 1976-77 amount to 5 lakh Tonnes.

Investment and Remittance by Multinational Corporations

1818. SHRI RANEN SEN:
SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether many multinational Corporations had made investments in India between January, 1975 and August, 1976;

(b) if so, their names and the amount of their equity shares in the Indian Companies;

(c) whether many multinational Corporations have remitted abroad profits from India during the period from January, 1975 to August, 1976; and

(d) if so, the extent thereof?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI C. SUBRAMANIAM): (a) to (d). Data relating to issue of shares in favour of non-residents and profits remitted by foreign companies for the period as required is being collected and information, to the extent, feasible, will be laid on the Table of the House.

Revenue Defraud by Firms Operating in the Field of Computers and Data Processing Equipments

1819. SHRI P. GANGADEB: Will the Minister of REVENUE AND BANKING be pleased to state:

(a) whether any firms operating in the field of computers and data processing equipments have defrauded the country of enormous revenues for some time past;

(b) if so, the facts thereof; and

(c) the steps taken by Government to check this practice?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN-CHARGE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE AND BANKING (SHRI PRANAB KUMAR MUKHERJEE): (a) to (c). Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Request by Bombay Electric Supply and Transport Company for loan from World Bank

1820. SHRI RAJDEO SINGH: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state whether Government are aware that Bombay Electric Supply and Transport Company has recently sought a loan of Rs 12 80 crores from World Bank and if so, the facts thereof?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI C. SUBRAMANIAM): Yes, Sir. Government of India are going to negotiate shortly with the World Bank a loan for a Bombay Urban Development Project, which includes a component of US $ 14.5 million (Rs. 12 8 crores) for the Bombay Electric Supply and Transport Company. This component would partly finance the procurement of 465 single-deck and 235 double deck buses, major spare parts, and construction of 3 new depots, 11 new terminals, and workshops.

Production in Public Undertakings

1821. SHRI P. R. SHENOY: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state the total increase in production in different public sector undertakings after the declaration of emergency?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHATGI): The required information is given in the Statement laid on the Table of the House. [*Placed in Library. See* No LT-11263/76].

Setting up of Industries in Foreign Countries

1822. SHRI S. R. DAMANI: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of permissions granted to private entrepreneurs during last year and upto 30th June, 1976 for setting up industries in foreign countries;

(b) the names of the parties, the names of the countries and the items of manufacture; and

(c) the general principles followed for granting such permissions?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI VISHWANATH PARTAP SINGH): (a) and (b). A statement is laid on the Table of the House. [*Placed in the Library. See* No. LT-11264/76].

(c) A statement showing the General Guidelines governing the setting up of Indian Joint Ventures abroad is also laid on the Table of the House. [*Placed in the Library. See* No. LT-11264/76].

Boosting of Coal Export

1823. SHRI S. R. DAMANI: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state·

(a) whether export opportunities for our coal are very promising and if so, the efforts being made in this regard; and

(b) the main features of agreements already signed and shipments made so far?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH): (a) and (b). Yes, Sir M.M.T.C., through whom export of coal is canalised, is diversifying its exports to non-traditional markets. Market surveys are being conducted. Port facilities are being augmented. As a result thereof substantial improvements are expected in coal exports during current year over the annual average export of about 4 lakh tonnes in the last three years. A total quantity of 1.53 lakh tonnes of coal has already been shipped as against total contracting of 7.4 lakh tonnes of coal so far during the current year.

रुपये की विनिमय दर

1824. **श्री शंकर दयाल सिंह** : क्या वित्त मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) भारत का जिन देशों से भारतीय मुद्रा में व्यापार हो रहा है उनके साथ भारतीय मुद्रा की वर्तमान विनिमय दर क्या है ; और

(ख) रूबल के साथ भारतीय मुद्रा की विनिमय दर क्या है ?

वित्त मंत्री (श्री सी० सुब्रह्मण्यम) : (क) जिन देशों का भारत के साथ व्यापार रुपयों में अदायगी के आधार पर होता है, इनमें से अधिकांश देश अन्तर्राष्ट्रीय मुद्रा कोष के सदस्य नहीं हैं। भारत और इन देशों के बीच सभी वाणिज्यिक और गैर-वाणिज्यिक लेन-देन भारतीय रुपयों में होता है । यद्यपि बाकी देशों के संबंध में, जिनके साथ भारत का व्यापार रुपयों में

होता है और अन्तर्राष्ट्रीय मुद्रा कोष के सदस्य हैं, डालर और उन देशों की मुद्राओं के बीच विनिमय दर का हिसाब "इन्टर-मेकशन" मुद्राओं के संदर्भ में आंकी गई "क्रास" दरों के आधार पर लगाया जा सकता है, लेकिन इन देशों के साथ भारत के व्यापार का इन विनिमय दरों से कोई संबंध नहीं है क्योंकि इनके साथ व्यापार प्राय रुपयों में ही होता है।

(ख) चूंकि सोवियत समाजवादी जनतंत्र संघ अन्तर्राष्ट्रीय मुद्रा कोष का सदस्य नहीं है, इसलिए दोनों देशों की मुद्राओं में निहित सोने की घोषित मात्रा के अतिरिक्त रूबल और भारतीय रुपए के बीच कोई प्रत्यक्ष सम्बन्ध नहीं है। भारत और सोवियत समाजवादी जनतंत्र संघ के बीच सभी वाणिज्यिक और गैर वाणिज्यिक लेन-देने भारतीय रुपयों में होते हैं। लेकिन सोवियत संघ द्वारा दिये जाने वाले ऋणों के अन्तर्गत संविदाओं की राशि रूबल में दी जाती है। सम्बद्ध ऋण करारों में दोनों देशों की मुद्राओं में निहित सोने की मात्रा को हिसाब में ले लिया जाता है।

विदेशों में भेजे गए भारतीय प्रतिनिधि मण्डल

1825. श्री शंकर दयाल सिंह : क्या वाणिज्य मन्त्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) गत वर्ष के दौरान आयात और निर्यात समझौतों के संबंध में भारतीय प्रतिनिधि मण्डलों ने किन-किन देशों का दौरा किया और प्रत्येक प्रतिनिधि मण्डल में कितने व्यक्ति थे, और

(ख) उक्त प्रत्येक देश से किस प्रकार के व्यापार समझौते किये गये ?

वाणिज्य मंत्रालय में उपमंत्री (श्री विश्वनाथ प्रताप सिंह) : (क) और (ख). जानकारी देने वाला एक विवरण संलग्न है।

विवरण

क्रमांक	प्रतिनिधिमंडल ने जिन देशों के दौरे किए उनके नाम	प्रतिनिधि-मंडल में व्यक्तियों की संख्या	किए गए करार का स्वरूप
1	अफगानिस्तान . .	5	भारत तथा अफगानिस्तान के बीच एक नए व्यापार तथा भुगतान करार पर विचार-विमर्श किया गया।
2	जर्मन लोकतंत्रिक गणराज्य	2	1976 के लिए जर्मन लोकतंत्रीय गणराज्य के साथ व्यापार संलेख पर हस्ताक्षर किए गए थे।
3	हंगरी .	3	1975 के लिए हंगरी के साथ व्यापार संलेख पर हस्ताक्षर किए गए।
4	जोर्डन . .	6	एक नए भारत-जोर्डन व्यापार करार के प्रारूप को अन्तिम रूप दिया गया।

1	2	3
5 नेपाल . .	9	भारत-नेपाल व्यापार तथा परिवहन संधि, 1971 के कार्यचालन का पुनर्विलोकन किया गया ।
6 उत्तरी कोरिया	1	1975 के लिए कोरिया का लोकतंत्रीय जनवादी गणराज्य के साथ व्यापार संलेख पर हस्ताक्षर किए गए ।
7 पोलैंड	3	1975 के लिए पोलैंड के साथ व्यापार संलेख पर हस्ताक्षर किए गए ।
8 सूडान	6	नवम्बर, 1975 से दिसम्बर, 1976 की अवधि के लिए भारत-सूडान व्यापार प्रबंध पर हस्ताक्षर किए गए ।
9 ट्यूनीसिया . .	3	एक नए भारत-ट्यूनीसिया व्यापार प्रबंध के प्रारूप को अन्तिम रूप दिया गया ।
10 स० रा० अमरीका .	3	स० रा० अमरीका को हथकरघा परिधानों के निर्यात तथा उससे संबंधित मामलों के विषय में एक करार हुआ ।
11 सोवियत संघ	2	1976-80 के लिए दीर्घावधि व्यापार योजना की तैयारी पर विचार-विमर्श किया गया ।
12 सोवियत संघ .	1	सोवियत संघ से आयात किए जाने वाले उर्वरकों की कीमतें पुन तय हुई ।
13 सोवियत संघ . .	5	1976-80 के लिए भारत-सोवियत संघ दीर्घावधि व्यापार योजना तैयार करने के विषय में विचार-विमर्श हुआ ।
14 युगोस्लाविया .	9	भारत-युगोस्लाविया संयुक्त समिति अन्य देशों में सहयोग संबंधी उप-समिति की बैठक हुई । अन्य देशों मे भारत-युगोस्लाविया संयुक्त उद्यमों की संभाव्यताओं का पता लगाया गया ।

तीसरे विश्व के देशों से व्यापार

1826. **श्री शंकर दयाल सिंह** : क्या वाणिज्य मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या अंकटाड सम्मेलन के बाद तीसरे विश्व के किन देशों के साथ भारतीय व्यापार में वृद्धि हुई है ;

(ख) क्या भारत अविकसित देशों से अधिक से अधिक व्यापार करने की दिशा में पहल कर रहा है ; और

(ग) यदि हां, तो इससंबन्धी तथ्य क्या हैं ?

वाणिज्य मंत्रालय में उप-मंत्री (श्री विश्वनाथ प्रताप सिंह) : (क) मई 1976 में हुए अंकटाड सम्मेलन के बाद विभिन्न देशों के साथ भारत के व्यापार के आंकड़े अभी उपलब्ध नहीं हैं ।

(ख) और (ग). जी हां । विकासशील देशों समेत विभिन्न देशों को भारत के निर्यात बढ़ाने के लिए उपाय किए जा रहे हैं । इन उपायों में निम्नलिखित शामिल हैं :—

(i) कतिपय देशों के साथ व्यापार करार तथा व्यापार प्लान सम्पन्न करना ।

(ii) बाजार सर्वेक्षण, व्यापार प्रतिनिधिमंडल भेजना, प्रचार, प्रदर्शनियों में भाग लेना आदि जैसे निर्यात संवर्द्धन कार्यकलापों में सहायता देना ।

(iii) विदेश स्थित हमारे वाणिज्यक कार्यालयों को सुदृढ़ बनाना ।

(iv) नौवहन सुविधाओं में सुधार करना ।

(v) विदेशों में भारतीय बैंकों की शाखायें खोलना ।

(vi) क्रेता तथा अन्य प्रतिनिधि मंडलों को भारत आमंत्रित करना ।

(vii) निर्यातकों को विभिन्न सुविधायें देना ।

Misuse of Import Licences in Gujarat

1827. SHRI ARVIND M. PATEL:
SHRI VEKARIA:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether any investigation has been made in respect of misusing of import licences in Gujarat State during the last three years;

(b) if so, the main features thereof; and

(c) the action taken by Government against the defaulters?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH): (a) Yes, Sir; in 53 cases.

(b) (i) Misuse of imported raw materials.

(ii) Evasion of information to the Industries Commissioner, Ahmedabad with regard to utilisation of imported raw material.

(iii) Closure of manufacturing activities.

(c) Defaulters have been punished under the Imports (Control) Order, 1955, by way of debarment from import assistance for specified periods. Their names have been published in the Weekly Bulletin of Industrial Licences, Import Licences and Export Licences. 3 cases have been handed over to CBI.

Tassar Development Corporation at Ranchi

828. SHRI N. E. HORO: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state whether the Central Government had decided to set up a full-fledged 'Tassar' Development Corporation at Ranchi?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH): No such decision has been taken.

Proposal to Advance Loans to Families in Tribal Belt of Bihar Engaged in Silk rearing Industry

1829. SHRI N. E. HORO: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the families in the tribal belt of Bihar are engaged in the silk-rearing industry; and

(b) if so, whether Government propose to advance bank loans for such families?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The State Bank of India, Chaibasa and the Bank of India have been advancing loans to the adivasi rearers in Chaibasa, Chakradharpur and Singhbhum district.

Association of Iron-Ore Exporting Countries

1830. SHRI RAGHUNANDAN LAL BHATIA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether an Association of Iron-ore Exporting countries was formed by some countries some time back; and

(b) if so, names of the countries who have joined this Association so far?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Algeria, Australia, Chile, India, Mauritania, Peru, Sierra-Leone, Sweden, Tunisia and Venuzuela.

Establishments Maintained Abroad by Public Undertakings

1831. SHRI K. MALLANNA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the establishments maintained abroad by the public undertakings; and

(b) the amount of foreign exchange spent by these undertakings on these establishments during last three years?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHATGI): (a) and (b). This being a matter of day-to-day administration. Government do not maintain uptodate information. However, according to a recent survey made by the Bureau of Public Enterprises 22 Central Government industrial and commercial companies maintained 160 establishments in foreign countries during 1973-74. The total amount of foreign exchange spend on these establishments amounted to Rs. 37 crores in that year. Of this, Rs. 35 crores related to the 95 establishments maintained by Air India for their business. The 95 establishments of Air India also accentuated for a venue of Rs. 82 crores in foreign exchange during 1973-74. The work involved in collecting the information for 2 more years will be incommensurate with the results expected.

Payment of compulsory deposits through Provident Fund Offices

1832. SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the total amount disbursed so far through the Provident Fund Offices as repayment of the first instalment of workers compulsory deposits; and

(b) the amount still remaining to be disbursed during the current year?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI C SUBRAMANIAM): (a) As on 13th August, 1976, an amount of Rs 16 67 crores has been disbursed through the Regional Provident Fund Commissioners towards repayment of the first instalment of additional dearness allowance deposits under the Additional Emoluments (Compulsory Deposit) Act, 1974.

(b) An amount of Rs. 76 97 crores still remains to be disbursed through the Regional Provident Fund Commissioners during the current year

Stocks of Imported stainless steel with M.M.T.C.

1833. SHRI DHAMANKAR: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether a large quantity of unsold stocks of imported stainless steel are now lying in the godowns of the Minerals and Metals Trading Corporation; and

(b) if so, its value and the reasons therefor?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH): (a) and (b). MMTC has in stock sufficient quantity of imported stainless steel to service known requirements of the industry. The position is kept constantly under review and corrective steps are taken as and when necessary.

Trade with China

1834. SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE:

SHRI SAROJ MUKERJEE:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) total value of export to and import from the People's Republic of China as in 1957, 1962 and 1975;

(b) the main items of export to and import from that country, during the years referred to above;

(c) whether Government are considering to initiate talks with the Peoples Republic of China, with a view to normalise and strengthen trade relations with that country; and

(d) if so, the salient features thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH): (a) The total value of exports to and import from the People's Republic of China in 1957, 1962-63 and 1975-76 was as follows:—

Year	Exports	In Rs. lakhs Imports
1957	369	486
1962-63	14	99
1975-76	..	..

(b) The main items exported to the People's Republic of China during 1957 were sugar, shellac; sandalwood and oil; plants, seeds and flowers; mica blocks and splittings; chrome ore and concentrates and materials of animal origin. Main items of import from

the People's Republic of China during 1957 were newsprint, rice, spices, rolled steel products, raw silk, menthol, sodium carbonate and sodium hydroxide. The main items exported in 1962-63 were shellac; sandalwood and oil, plants, seeds and flowers; steel support of electric transmission and distribution line. Main items imported in that year were spices, flourspare, sodium hydroxide, turpineol, coaltar dyes, tissue paper, natural graphite, Nepthol and inter-mediates used for the manufacture of dystuffs, essential vegetable oils, pipes and fittings and wire rods.

(c) and (d). As part of the process of normalising our relations possibilities of improving our bilaterial relations in all fields will be explored.

Export of Karnataka Handicrafts

1835. SHRI K. MALLANNA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) the amount of foreign exchange earned from export of Karnataka handicrafts during the last three years, year-wise; and

(b) the names of the countries where these handicrafts are popular and in demand?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH): (a) and (b). As export figures of handicrafts are not compiled on state-wise basis, it is not possible to indicate correctly the amount of foreign exchange earned from export of Karnataka Handicrafts during the last three years.

Scheme to develop weekend picnic spots near towns and cities of Karnataka as Tourist centres

1836. SHRI K. MALLANNA: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any scheme in the Central Sector to develop weekend picnic spots near towns and cities of Karnataka as tourist centres;

(b) whether the State of Karnataka has also approached the Union Government in this regard; and

(c) if so, the reaction of Central Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SURENDRA PAL SINGH): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c). As the development of facilities for home tourists is primarily the responsibility of State Governments, the development of picnic spots near town and cities of Karnattaka would come within the purview of the State Government. No proposals in this respect have thus been received from the Government of Karnataka.

Exports to Canada

1837. SHRI D D. DESAI: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state

(a) whether our exports to Canada fell by 12 million dollars in 1975 as compared to 1974;

(b) if so, the reasons thereof; and

(c) whether Indian exporters to Canada are getting any help from Government to boost their sales abroad?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) This was due to a sharp decline in our exports mainly of Jute goods and Cashew nuts. Decline in the exports of jute goods was due to overall decrease in the consumption of these goods in Canada, as a result of reces-

sion in the house-building and carpet manufacturing industry. Decline in our exports of cashew nuts was partly due to the total shortfall in Canadian imports of nuts from all sources and partly due to competition from China, Tanzania and Brazil.

(c) Various measures of export promotion extended by Government to exporters are available to exporters to Canada also.

New spinning units in Metropolitan Cities

1838. SHRI D. D. DESAI: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have decided not to allow new spinning units or expansion of existing ones in metropolitan cities;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) whether this decision will affect smaller spinning units with less than 50,000 spindles?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH): (a) The Government have delicensed cotton spinning for the manufacture of cotton yarn upto a capacity of 50,000 spindles subject to the restrictions that no new unit should be less than 25,000 spindles and the relaxation is not applicable to units in large cities/Metropolitan towns.

(b) This relaxation has been made to stimulate investment in the priority sectors and to ensure optimum utilisation of the installed capacities

(c) The decision will not affect adversely Smaller Spinning units with less than 50,000 spindles.

Liberalisation of rules for issue of bonus shares

1839. SHRI D. D. DESAI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have liberalised rules for issue of bonus shares;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the salient features of the new regulations?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI C. SUBRAMANIAM): (a) to (c). No. Sir. Government have not made any statutory rules relating to issue of bonus shares by companies but have only prescribed certain administrative guidelines for examining bonus issue applications. These guidelines are published in the form of Press Notes for information of the public. During the period from January, 1974 to April, 1976, bonus guidelines were relaxed on two occasions. In July 1975 Government issued a Press Note relaxing guideline No 18 in regard to the issue of bonus shares which *inter alia* envisages that at any one time the total amount permitted to the capitalised for the issue of bonus shares out of free reserve shall not exceed the total amount of paid up capital of a company. A relaxation from this guideline could be considered on merits in respect of companies which want to raise capital from Indian residents:—

(i) to finance aporoved schemes of expansion or diversification; or

(ii) Which are required to bring down the foreign shareholdings under Foreign Exchange Regulation Act, 1973 for continuance of existing business activities.

In November, 1975 another Press Note was issued announcing relaxation of guidelines Nos. 13 and 14 as a result of which the time lag between

two successive announcements of bonus issues was reduced from 40 months to 24 months and the time lag for making applications for bonus issues was reduced from 36 months to 12 months. These relaxations were made to tone up the capital market.

According to the Companies (Transfer of Profits to Reserves) Rules, 1975 where a dividend is declared by a company in a financial year a minimum distribution sufficient for the maintenance of dividends to shareholders at a rate equal to the average of the rates at which dividends declared by it over the three years immediately preceding the financial year was to be ensured. This rule was, however, amended by the Department of Company Affairs on the 23rd July, 1976 in such a way that instead of the rate of dividend being maintained an amount equal to the average amount (quantum) of dividend declared over the three years immediately preceding the financial year, need be ensured in cases where bonus shares have been issued in the financial year in which the dividend is declared.

Debt-equity ratio in Companies

1840. SHRI D. D. DESAI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are not going to allow Industry's plea for raising debt-equity ratio in companies; and

(b) if so, the facts thereof?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI C. SUBRAMANIAM): (a) and (b). The matter is under consideration of the Government.

Export-import trade of Cotton

1841. SHRI SAROJ MUKHERJEE. Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state the measures his Ministry propose to take to check the trade gop in the export import trade of cotton, import-price being Rs. 1,500 per candy more its export price?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH): No export of cotton is being allowed by the Government at present.

Guide issued by Punjab, Haryana and Delhi Chamber of Commerce and Industry

1842. SHRI SUBODH HANSDA: Will the Minister of REVENUE AND BANKING be pleased to state whether he has noticed a guide issued by Punjab, Haryana and Delhi Chamber of Commerce and Industry, A-9 Cunnaught Place, New Delhi providing instructions to its member-companies about ways and means for escaping *over assessment* and *evation of* direct taxes?

THE MINISTER OF STATE INCHARGE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE AND BANKING (SHRI PRANAB KUMAR MUKHERJEE): No, Sir.

Refund of first instalment of impounded wages

1843. DR. RANEN SEN:
SHRI C. K. CHANDRAPPAN:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the private sector industries and public sector industries have refunded the first instalment of compulsory deposit to their employees in july, 1976;

(b) how many establishments have defaulted in refund of compulsory deposit; and

(c) the total amount refunded so far?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI C. SUBRAMANIAM): (a) and (b). Repayment of the first instalment

of additional dearness allowance deposits to the employees in private sector industries and public sector industries, which fell due on 6th July, 1976, has started. As the repayment is now in progress, the question of default in refunding the amount does not arise at this stage. Regional Provident Fund Commissioners have been instructed to speed up repayment due to employees, and interest will also be paid to employees till the end of the month preceding the month of actual payment.

(c) Till 13th August, 1976, an amount of Rs. 16.67 crores has been refunded to the above employees through the Regional Provident Fund Commissioners.

Production of controlled cloth

1844. DR RANEN SEN: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether National Textile Corporation mills have stopped producing "controlled cloth", and

(b) if so, the reasons thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH): (a) and (b). In pursuance of a decision taken by Government to give relief to the financially weak mills in the matter of production of controlled cloth, the Textile Commissioner has granted exemption to the N.T.C. mills, all of which satisfy the criteria of financially weak mills, from the obligation to produce controlled cloth for a period of one year with effect from 1st January, 1976.

Delay in completion of public sector projects

1845. SHRI ARJUN SETHI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the names of the projects in the public sector which are behind schedule for construction and the period of delay in each case;

(b) the reasons for the delay; and

(c) the steps taken to expedite completion of these projects and the estimated additional expenditure likely to be incurred as a result of delay in their completion?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHATGI): (a) The information as collected recently from the Public Enterprises is given in the Statement laid on the Table of the House. [*Placed in Library. See* No. LT-11265/76].

(b) The main reasons for delay were the following:—

1. Time taken in preparation of detailed project report and engineering drawings for civil works.

2. Changes in the project proposal involving modification in designs, delay in obtaining technical approval of foreign collaborators.

3. Delay in acquisition of land

4 Shortage of basic material like steel, cement etc.

5. Shortage of power

6 Scarcity of foreign exchange.

7 Shortage of budget resources in some cases.

8 Delay in delivery of indigenous and imported equipment

9 Adverse geological and mining conditions.

10. Lack of demand.

11. In heavy industries the over-dimensional equipments posed difficulties in their transportation.

(c) Government have taken various measures to expedite project implementation. These include:—

1. Special priority in allocation of steel and cement to public enterprises.

2. High level intervention to reduce bottlenecks arising from power shortage and failure.

3. Indigenous suppliers of material and equipments were vigorously pursued for expediting supplies.

4. Where the contractors had failed, the manufacture of items were taken up departmently.

5. Steps have been taken to expedite import of certain critical items and find necessary foreign exchange resources.

The estimated additional expenditure likely to be incurred as a result of delay in completion of the projects mentioned in the Annexure was Rs. 86.00 crores.

Survey regarding spending by tourists

1846. SHRI YAMUNA PRASAD MANDAL: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state

(a) whether Government propose to conduct a fresh survey regarding spending by tourists; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SURENDRA PAL SINGH): (a) Such a survey has already been initiated by the Department of Tourism.

(b) The last such survey covered a period of one year from October, 1972 to September, 1973. Owing to escalation of prices, the energy crisis and consequent rise in international air fares, the average spending estimated at the time of the last survey has become out of date. As such, it was considered necessary to conduct a fresh survey of foreign tourists expenditure to arrive at a more realistic estimate of foreign exchange earnings from tourism as also to determine the pattern and priorities of investments in tourism infrastructure and promotion.

बिहार में केन्द्रीय उत्पादन शुल्क की वसूली

1847. **श्री ज्ञानेश्वर प्रसाद यादव :** क्या राजस्व और बैंकिंग मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि

(क) बिहार राज्य से केन्द्रीय उत्पादन-शुल्क के रूप में 1975-76 में कितनी राशि प्राप्त हुई ;

(ख) क्या वर्ष 1974-75 के मुकाबले 1975-76 में उक्त आय में वृद्धि हुई ; और

(ग) यदि हां, तो तत्संबंधी ब्यौरा क्या है ?

राजस्व और बैंकिंग विभाग के प्रभारी राज्य मंत्री (श्री प्रणव कुमार मुखर्जी) : (क) 221 32 करोड़ रुपए ।

(ख) जी, हां । वृद्धि 2537 करोड़ रुपए तय की थी ।

(ग) राजस्व में वृद्धि मुख्यतया निर्मित तम्बाकू, सिगरेट, सीमेंट, लोहा और इस्पात उत्पादों तथा मोटर गाड़ियों के संबंध में थी । हाथ से बनी बीड़िया, खैनी तम्बाकू और अन्यत्र अविनिर्दिष्ट अन्य सभी वस्तुओं (टैरिफ मद सं० 6,8) पर 1975-76 के बजट में पहली बार लगाये गए उत्पादनशुल्क से भी राजस्व में वृद्धि हुई है ?

Cash subsidy on Hessian Exports

1848. SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have asked Indian Jute Mills Association and Calcutta Jute Fabric Shippers Asso-

ciation to suggest a formula for furnishing shipping bills for the purpose of disbursement of 10 per cent cash subsidy on hessian exports; and

(b) if so, the facts thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH): (a) and (b). Indian Jute Mills Association had represented to the Government abut certain difficulties faced by them. These are being looked into by the Jute Commissioner in consultation with Indian Jute Mills Association and Calcutta Jute Fabric Shippers Association.

पूर्वांचल के राज्यों के वित्त मन्त्रियों का सम्मेलन

1849. **श्री रामावतार शास्त्री** : क्या **वित्त** मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) क्या पूर्वांचल के राज्यों के वित्त मंत्रियों का एक सम्मेलन अगस्त, 1976 के प्रथम सप्ताह में पटना में आयोजित किया गया था ;

(ख) यदि हां, तो उसके उद्देश्य क्या थे;

(ग) क्या पूर्वांचल राज्यों की आर्थिक स्थिति में सुधार के लिए उनको कोई प्रस्ताव पेश किया गया है ; और

(घ) यदि हां, तो उस पर केन्द्र सरकार की प्रतिक्रिया क्या है ?

वित्त मंत्रालय में उप-मंत्री (श्रीमती सुशीला रोहतगी) : (क) से (घ) . पूर्वी क्षेत्र के राज्यों के वित्त मंत्रियों का सम्मेलन 6 अगस्त, 1976 को पटना में हुआ था जिसमें राष्ट्रीय बजट सम्बन्धी कार्यों की समीक्षा की गई थी और चालू वित्त वर्ष में पूर्वी क्षेत्र के विभिन्न राज्यों में राष्ट्रीय बचत अभियान में तेजी लाने के लिए सुझावों पर विचार किया गया था । वित्त मंत्रालय की उपमंत्री महोदया ने इस सम्मेलन में भाग लिया था । सम्मेलन में पूर्वी क्षेत्र के राज्यों की आर्थिक स्थिति में सुधार करने का कोई प्रस्ताव पेश नहीं किया गया था ।

Take-over of management of national Co's Jute Mill at Sankrail, Howrah

1850. SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA: Will the Miniser of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) the circumstances which prompted Government to take-over the management of the National Co's jute mill at Sankrail, Howrah;

(b) whether the newly appointed Chairman and members of the Board of Directors have any experience in running a jute mill; and

(c) whether it is proposed to return the company's mill to the former management after some time?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH): (a) Management of the National Co., Calcutta was taken over by Government because Government was satisfied that the persons incharge of the Company had by diversion of funds brought about a situation which was likely to affect production in the undertaking and it was necessary to prevent such a situation.

(b) The newly appointed management has sufficient expertise in the running a jute mill.

(c) No, Sir.

Operation of 'Janta' Planes

1851. SHRI BIBHUTI MISHRA: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether a scheme to have 'Janta' planes for small towns has been mooted by Government;

(b) if so, the main features thereof;

(c) the time by which 'Janta' planes will be in operation in India and the names of the cities and towns to be covered by such service; and

(d) whether the know-how and designs will be cent per cent indigenous?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI RAJ BAHADUR): (a) to (d). There is no specific scheme as yet for providing air services between small towns. However, sometime back the Ministry of Defence had constituted a Study Group, which has among others representatives of Indian Airlines and Civil Aviation Department, to examine whether there was an internal demand for a small passenger aircraft and whether it was feasible to indigenously design and develop such an aircraft. The Study Group has not yet concluded its deliberations.

Raid on Delhi Advocate's Chamber

1852. SHRI BIBHUTI MISHRA: Will the Minister of REVENUE AND BANKING be pleased to state:

(a) whether a Delhi advocate's chamber was raided in July this year;

(b) if so, the facts about important materials seized from the advocate's chamber; and

(c) to what extent Government are benefited by those materials in unearthing evaded income and the amount of taxes Government expected to realise from that advocate?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN-CHARGE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE AND BANKING (SHRI PRANAB KUMAR MUKHERJEE): (a) to (c). The chamber of an advocate was searched in the course of a search and seizure operation conducted in the case of one of his clients. Some books of account belonging to the client were seized. The gain to revenue will be known on completion of investigations in the client's case. Assessment will be framed/penalty proceedings initiated as called for under the law.

Employees' response to Government's appeal for depositing impounded D.A.

1853. SHRI S. A. MURUGANANTHAM: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state·

(a) whether Government had made a plea to the employees to redeposit voluntarily part or the whole of the first instalment of impounded dearness allowance released recently; and

(b) if so, their response thereto?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI C. SUBRAMANIAM): (a) Through a Press Note issued on 7th August, 1976, it was announced by the Government that an employee could retain voluntarily part or whole of the first instalment of additional dearness allowance, repayment of which is now due to him, in the Deposit Account till 1st July, 1981. It was also announced that if an option is exercised by an employee accordingly, the entire amount thus retained voluntarily (the first instalment of additional dearness allowance deposits plus interest payable along with it) will fetch an attractive rate of interest, which is 2½ per cent over and above the maximum bank deposit rate, (i.e. 12½ per cent at present). These facilities are calculated to enable the employees to retain the amounts in the Deposit Account.

(b) As the facilities were announced by the Government only on 7th

August, 1976, it is too early to judge the response from the employees and workers.

Meeting of Regional Consultative Committee of Nationalised Banks for Central Zone

1854. SHRI RAGHUNANDAN LAL BHATIA: Will the Minister of REVENUE AND BANKING be pleased to state:

(a) whether a meeting of the Regional Consultative Committee of the nationalised banks for the Central Zone was held at Bhopal in June, 1976;

(b) if so, whether bank assistance to meet the credit needs of landless labour provided with house sites and those freed from bonded labour under the 20 Point Economic Programme figured in the meeting; and

(c) if so, salient features of the decisions taken therein?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN-CHARGE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE AND BANKING (SHRI PRANAB KUMAR MUKHERJEE): (a) to (c) Meeting of Regional Consultative Committee for nationalised banks, Central Area, consisting the States of Madhya Pradesh and Uttar Pradesh was held at Bhopal on 19th June, 1976. Twenty Point Economic Programme with particular reference to bonded labour and liquidation of rural indebtedness was one of the subjects discussed at the meeting. The main decisions taken at this meeting are as follows:

(1) Banks would ensure that branches are opened in all unbanked community Development Blocks and/or unbanked Block Head-quarters as possess the necessary infrastructure facilities and have development potential.

(2) The lead banks should take urgent steps to formulate district credit plans for their lead districts in the Central Region.

(3) The question of bringing about unifomity in the rates of interest charged by different banks in specific areas and for specific purposes needs to be examined.

(4) Disposal of loan applications involving credit limits of Rs. 10,000 or less should be secured within a period of 3 to 4 weeks. Banks would accordingly issue instructions to their branch managers.

Trade deficits during 1976-77

1856. SHRI RAGHUNANDAN LAL BHATIA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether 1976-77 will witness a dramatic reversal of massive deficits that have characterised the country's trade ever since the oil crisis; and

(b) if so, facts thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH): (a) and (b) It is true that there is a surplus of Rs 88 crores in the first quarter of the current financial year as against a trade deficit of Rs. 311 crores in the corresponding period of last year in the country's foreign trade. However, it is difficult to say at this stage anything definite as regards the final picture for the current year.

Involvement of Commercial Banks in Programme Planning in Backward Districts

1856. SHRI VASANT SATHE: Will the Minister of REVENUE AND BANKING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have worked out a well knit programme to involve commercial banks in pro-

grammpe planning and in financing of the area development programme in selected backward districts of the country; and

(b) if so, the main features thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN-CHARGE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE AND BANKING (SHRI PRANAB KUMAR MUKHERJEE): (a) and (b). Area Development constitutes part of the Lead Bank Scheme in which all public sector banks and three other scheduled banks are taking part. These programmes generally cover one district Recently, some States have embarked on large composite development projects like Chambal Command Area Development Project (Rajasthan and Madhya Pradesh), Rajasthan Canal Command Area Development Project, and Nagarjunsagar Irrigation Project, Andhra Pradesh. Governments of Uttar Pradesh and Bihar also have several such projects. Each of these projects will benefit a number of backward districts. Banks are participating in these projects in collaboration with Agricultural Refinance and Development Corporation and other institutions.

Take-over of Textile Mills

1857. SHRI S. M. BANERJEE: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) what further steps have been taken to takeover the closed textile mills in the country; and

(b) whether any textile mill has been taken over by Government during the period from April to 31st July, 1976?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH): (a) and (b). Government is generally not in favour of taking over more closed mills but would like serious efforts to be made by all concerned to ensure reopening of closed mills. However, in two specific cases, after exhausting all avenues of reopening the closed mills Government had to decide in July, 1976 to take over two closed mills.

Reinstatement of audit employees suspended during Railway strike

1858. SHRI S. M. BANERJEE: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the audit employees whose services were terminated or suspended during Railway strike have been taken back; and

(b) if not, the reason for this abnormal delay?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHATGI): (a) Out of a total number of 96 audit employees whose services were terminated and 170 audit employees who were placed under suspension during May 1974 strike, 36 employees from amongst the terminated ones and 154 from amongst the suspended ones have been taken back.

(b) The reasons for not taking back the remaining persons are given below:

(1) *Terminated Employees*

(i) 40 persons went to the courts. The cases in respect of 39 are sub-judice. In one case, the court had decided against the petitioner.

(ii) 11 persons had represented to the Reviewing Authority after their services were terminated and the representations were rejected by the Reviewing Authority as all these persons were active participants in the strike.

(iii) 5 persons did not represent against the orders of termination.

(iv) 4 persons initially went to the court and obtained stay order and were thus reinstated but subsequently they withdrew the court cases and left the service

(2) Suspended Employees

(i) 12 persons are facing charges under Defence of India Rules.

(ii) 4 persons are facing departmental action and disciplinary proceedings are in progress.

Excise concessions to foam manufacturers

1859 SHRI VAYALAR RAVI·

SHRI S D SOMASUNDARAM:

Will the Minister of REVENUE AND BANKING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have given excise concessions to the foam manufacturers;

(b) if so, how many industries have qualified for these concessions,

(c) whether any discrimination has been made between natural rubber foam and polyurethane foam industries; and

(d) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN-CHARGE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE AND BANKING (SHRI PRANAB KUMAR MUKHERJEE): (a) The scheme of excise duty rebate on higher production has been extended to include polyurethane foam among other items.

(b) As on 15th August, 1976 no industrial unit manufacturing polyurethane foam had been given the excise concession.

(c) and (d). When the scheme was extended to selected items on under Central Excise Tariff Schedule were gone through and the scheme was extended to selected items on various considerations of policy and administrative nature There is, therefore, no question of any discrimination.

Disparity in rates of interest on fixed deposits

1860 SHRI VASANT SATHE: Will the Minister of REVENUE AND BANKING be pleased to state:

(a) whether there exists a wide disparity in the interest rates paid by the nationalised commercial banks on fixed deposits for five years and above;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) whether Government propose to rationalise the rates of interest on such fixed deposits?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN-CHARGE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE AND BANKING (SHRI PRANAB KUMAR MUKHERJEE)· (a) No, Sir. All the scheduled commercial banks, including the public sector banks, pay interest on deposits at rates stipulated by the Reserve Bank from time to time. However, in the interest of deposit mobilisation, formulation by the commercial banks of deposit schemes with specific special features is not objected to by the Reserve Bank so long as the interest paid by the banks on the deposits received under such schemes, including prizes, if any, does not exceed the permissible rates, compounded at suitable rates.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

दिल्ली में सरकारी होटलों में अनुसूचित जातियों के उम्मीदवारों के लिए आरक्षित कोटा

1861. **श्री हरी सिंह :** क्या **पर्यटन और नागर विमानन** मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या सरकार द्वारा दिल्ली में चलाये जाने वाले होटलों में राजपत्रित पदों पर अनुसूचित जातियों के उम्मीदवारों की नियुक्ति के लिए आरक्षित पदों को भरने के लिए सरकार ने कोई विशेष प्रयत्न किए हैं; और

(ख) यदि हां, तो उसकी रूपरेखा क्या है तथा उसके परिणामस्वरूप गत एक वर्ष में अनुसूचित जातियों के कितने उम्मीदवारों का चयन किया गया है ?

पर्यटन और नागर विमानन मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री सुरेन्द्र पाल सिंह) : (क) और (ख). दिल्ली तथा अन्य स्थानों पर सार्वजनिक क्षेत्र में होटलों का परिचालन पर्यटन और नागर विमानन मंत्रालय के नियंत्रणाधीन एक सरकारी उद्यम—भारत पर्यटन विकास निगम—द्वारा किया जाता है। इस निगम में राजपत्रित नाम के कोई पद नहीं है। तथापि, इस निगम में जहां तक राजपत्रित पदों के समतुल्य पदों का संबंध है, उन पर अनुसूचित जाति/अनुसूचित जनजाति के वर्गों के व्यक्तियों के लिए आरक्षित पदों के कोटे में इन वर्गों के उम्मीदवारों की भर्ती के लिए विशेष प्रयत्न किए जा रहे हैं। इन प्रयत्नों में विशेष विज्ञापन, अनुसूचित जाति/अनुसूचित जनजाति के संगठनों में पदों का प्रसार, यथासंभव रूप में अर्हताओं एवं मानकों में रियायत तथा चयन समितियों में अनुसूचित जाति/अनुसूचित जनजाति के अधिकारियों को सम्मिलित करना शामिल है।

31 जुलाई, 1976 को समाप्त होने वाले वर्ष में भर्ती किए गए ऐसे 33 पदों में से 9 पद अनुसूचित जाति/अनुसूचित जनजाति के लिए थे। इन 9 पदों पर इन्हीं वर्गों के उम्मीदवारों का चयन किया गया।

Arrests for Evasion of taxes

1862. SHRI RAM PRAKASH: Will the Minister of REVENUE AND BANKING be pleased to state:

(a) the number of persons arrested, State-wise during last one year for tax evasion; and

(b) the value of property belonging to those tax evaders seized?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN-CHARGE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE AND BANKING (SHRI PRANAB KUMAR MUKHERJEE): (a) Under the Direct Taxes Laws there is no provision for arrest of persons for evasion of taxes.

Under COFEPOSA Act, 1974 though there is no provision for 'arrest' of persons for tax evasion, persons indulging in smuggling activities and foreign exchange racketeering are liable to preventive detention. During the period from 3-8-75 to 31-7-76, 1150 detention orders against smugglers and foreign exchange racketeers were issued under COFEPOSA Act, 1974 by the Central Government and various State Governments. A statement showing State-wise position of detention orders, issued is laid on the Table of the House. [*Placed in Library. See* No. LT-11266/76].

A statement showing the number of persons arrested under Customs Act, during the period from 1-7-75 to 30-6-76 Collectorate-wise these figures are not maintained State-

wise) is laid on the Table of the House. [*Placed in Library. See* No. LT-11286/76].

Number of persons arrested under Central Excise & Salt Act, during last one year is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

(b) Under Direct Taxes Laws as there is no provision for arrest of persons for tax evasion, the question of seizure of property belonging to them does not arise.

Properties valued over Rs. One crore have been ordered to be attached as per the provisions of Section 7(1)(a) of the COFEPOSA Act, 1974 upto 31-7-76 in 19 cases of absconders.

Goods valued at about Rs. 35 crores were seized under Customs Act during the period from 1-7-75 to 30-6-76.

Value of seizures made during the last one year under Central Excise and Salt Act is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Facilities provided by Airlines Industry

1863. SHRI RAM PRAKASH: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether porterage, conveyance and food charges are included in the ticket or it is a part of the travel facilities provided by the airlines industry; and

(b) in case they are included, whether there is any proposal to make it optional?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI RAJ BAHADUR): (a) and (b) The fare charged by airlines for travel between two points is for carriage of passenger from airport to airport. Except for food and beverages that are supplied on board the aircraft, no other facilities are made available to the passengers as a part of the fare paid. However in international travel, at a transfer/connecting point shown on the passenger's ticket, the airlines may provide cost of hotel accommodation, food and ground transportation etc. for a duration of 24 hours. According to International Air Transport Association Regulations, airlines have discretion to determine whether these expenses should be absorbed in fare or not.

Fall in the price of natural rubber

1864. SHRIMATI BHARGAVI THANKAPPAN: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there has been a steep fall in the price of natural rubber during the last one year;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps taken or proposed to be taken to restore the price of natural rubber to the old level?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH): (a) and (b). There has been a fall in the price of natural rubber in the country, which was partly due to accumulation of stocks with growers.

(c) Govt are seized of the problem to stabilise raw rubber prices in the market and the matter is under constant review. In this context STC have already been permitted to make purchases from growers for export.

Production of Cashew

1865. SHRI C. K. CHANDRAPPAN: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) the total production of cashew in the country, State-wise during the current year;

(b) the raw cashewnuts imported annually and the figures for 1974—1976;

(c) whether Kerala Government has sent a scheme of cashew plantation to Central Government for approval;

(d) if so, Government's decision thereon; and

(e) how much foreign exchange Government have earned from cashew export during 1974 to 1976 and how much foreign exchange Government had to spend to import raw cashewnuts from 1974 to 1976?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH): (a) Total and State-wise production figures for the current year are not yet available According to tentative estimates made by the Directorate of Cashew Development Cochin, the quantity produced during 1974-75 was 1,85,021 tonnes.

(b) The annual import figure for raw cashewnuts varies from year to year. The figures for 1974 onwards are as follows:

Year	Qty. in tonnes
1974	1,77,109
1975	1,34,157
1976 (Jan.-July)	22,583

(c) Yes, Sir. The scheme envisages raising cashew over an area of 25,000 hectares in Private Holdings.

(d) The Ministry of Agriculture has prepared a scheme for subsidised plantation of cashew in 60,000 hectares in Departmental lands and 85,000 hectares in private lands in different cashew growing states, including Kerala. The scheme envisages a subsidy of Rs. 500 per hectare for departmental lands and Rs. 300 per hectare for private lands spread over the first two years of plantation.

(e) The amount spent on import of raw cashewnuts and the earnings made from exports of cashew kernels and cashewnut shell liquid from 1974 onwards are as follows:—

Year	Exports in Rs. crores	Imports in Rs. crores
1974	106·17	40·68
1975	106·81	32·86
1976 (Jan.-June)	50·29	5·19 (Jan.-July)

(Figures for 1976 are provisional)

Production of cloth and yarn

1866. SHRI C. K. CHANDRAPPAN: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the production of cloth and yarn has declined in 1975 as compared to 1974;

(b) if so, the reasons thereof;

(c) the production of cloth and yarn before emergency in National Textile Corporation mills and after emergency, and

(d) the production of yarn and cloth in Private sector before emergency and after the emergency?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The decline in production was mainly due to imposition of power cut in some of the States.

(c) and (d). The following are the figures of production of both cotton yarn and cloth before and after emergency in NTC mills as as well as in private sector mills:

Period	Cotton yarn (in million) kgs		Cloth (in Million) mtrs.	
	NTC Mills	Mills in Private Sector	NTC Mills	Mills in Private Sector
Jan. 75 to June, 75	68·3	404·3	38·97	1966·93
July 75 to December, 75	74·6	442·1	39·[illegible]	1986·53
Jan. 76 to June, 76	76·2	459·5	39·57	2026·93

Persons arrested on charges of smuggling

1867. SHRI C. K CHANDRAPPAN. Will the Minister for REVENUE AND BANKING be pleased to state

(a) whether the number of smugglers arrested in 1975 and during the current year upto July, 1976 was less than the number of arrests in 1973 and 1974; and

(b) the number of smugglers arrested during the years 1973 to 1976?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN-CHARGE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE AND BANKING (SHRI PRANAB KUMAR MUKHERJEE): (a) and (b). The number of persons arrested under the Customs Act during 1973, 1974, 1975 and upto May, 1976 is given below:

Year	No. of persons arrested
1973	2370
1974	3284
1975 . .	2997
1976 (upto May)	1371

The figures for the months of June and July 1976 are being collected and will be laid on the table of the Sabha

In addition to the persons arrested, 2173 persons have also been detained as on 31-7-76 under the Conservation of Foreign Exchange and Prevention of Smuggling Activities Act.

Pending pension cases

1868. SHRI ARVIND M. PATEL:
SHRI VEKARIA:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of pension cases of Central Government employees pending for six months and over with the various Ministries/Departments of Government; and

(b) the reasons therefor and steps taken by Government to ensure immediate settlement of pension and other claims of retiring Government employees?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHATGI): (a) and (b). The pension cases of Central Government employees are processed by numerous authorities in different Departments spread all over the country Information regarding pending pension cases is, therefore, not available centrally. Rules and procedures are modified from time to time to eliminate delays in settlement of pension cases. Effective from 1-3-76, a procedure has been prescribed under which, in cases of superannuation, pension will invariably be authorised before the date of retirement of the Government servant and the pension cases of those who retired before 1-3-76 will be finalised latest by 31-8-76.

Non-compliance of the Directives of Government to Stamp the Price of Cloth

1869. SHRI ARVIND M. PATEL:
SHRI VEKARIA:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether a large number of mills have not complied with directives of Government to stamp the price of cloth on every yard;

(b) if so, the number of defaulting mills; and

(c) action taken by Government against them?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH): (a) No such instances have come to the notice of the Government.

(b) and (c). Do not arise

GIR Tourist Complex

1870 SHRI ARVIND M. PATEL:
SHRI VEKARIA:

Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state

(a) whether there is any scheme under the consideration of Government to have a GIR Tourist Complex; and

(b) if so, the areas to be covered in this scheme?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SURENDRA PAL SINGH). (a) There is a scheme under the consideration of the State Government for the development of the Gir Tourist Complex The Central Department of Tourism is construction a Forest lodge at Sasangir. The lodge will be managed by the India Tourism Development Corporation.

(b) The areas covered under the State scheme are Sasan, Veraval, Somnath and Porbandar.

Committee to Enquire into Activities of Non-Banking Companies

1871. SHRI R. K. SINHA: Will the Minister of REVENUE AND BANKING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to set up a Committee to enquire into

the activities of the non-banking companies in the country; and

(b) if so, the salient features thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN-CHARGE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE AND BANKING (SHRI PRANAB KUMAR MUKHERJEE): (a) and (b) No such proposal is under consideration of the Government

Setting up of a Single Quality Inspection and Control Organisation

1872. SHRI R. K SINHA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have considered the necessity of setting up of a single quality inspection and control organisation for all exportable commodities produced by different Departments of Government and Semi-Government organisations, including Corporations; and

(b) if so, the particulars thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

भारत और आस्ट्रेलिया के बीच व्यापार करार

1873. श्री चिरंजीव झा :
श्री अर्जुन सेठी :

क्या वाणिज्य मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या आस्ट्रेलिया की सरकार भारत में बनें सूती कपड़े पर लगने वाले सीमा-शुल्क में भेद-भाव को दूर करने हेतु अपनी आयात नीति पर फिर से विचार करने पर सहमत हो गई है ,

(ख) यदि हां, तो इस नीति की मुख्य बातें क्या है ; और

(ग) दोनों देशों के बीच हुए दीर्घावधि करार का संक्षिप्त प्रारूप क्या है

वाणिज्य मंत्रालय में उपमंत्री (श्री विश्वनाथ प्रताप सिंह) : (क) जी नहीं ।

(ख) और (ग) प्रश्न नहीं उठते ।

Setting up of Joint Ventures in Developing Countries

1874 SHRI DHAMANKAR: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether a delegation of furniture makers had recently gone overseas to explore the markets for sale of our classical and other wooden furniture abroad and if so, who sponsored the delegation;

(b) with what success has the delegation met in securing orders and from which countries; and

(c) whether there are any prospects of collaboration agreements for setting up of joint ventures in this regard in the developing countries?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH): (a) Yes, Sir This was a delegation financed by the United Nations Development Programme through the Indian Institute of Foreign Trade.

(b) The delegation secured orders for selling furniture components worth Rs 5 lakhs in Denmark and booked orders for selling furniture for another Rs. 5 lakhs in France.

(c) There are prospects of collaboration agreements for setting up joint ventures in India.

Performance of Indian Airlines

1875. SHRI DHAMANKAR: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) the performance of Indian Airlines as regards the passenger traffic as well as the cargo traffic and how does it compare with last year and the percentage of growth achieved;

(b) the annual utilisation of various aircraft as per present schedule during the same period; and

(c) whether there are any plans to induct on its net-work new aircraft and air buses to give fillip to growth in traffic, both of passenger and cargo if so, what?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI RAJ BAHADUR): (a) Thte following figures are indicative of the performance of Indian Airlines, both as regards passenger traffic as well as cargo traffic —

	1974-75	1975-76	Percentage increase
Number of passengers carried	2,889,360	3,359,233	16·26
Cargo carried including Excess Baggage (Tonnes) . .	20,020	24,317	21·46

(b) The figures of annual utilisation (aircraft typewise) during 1974-75, 1975-76 and utilisation as per the present Schedule are as under:—

Type of Aircraft	Aircrart utilisation (per annum per aircraft)		
	1974-75	1975-76	As per present Schedule
Boeing-737	2296	2758	2786
Caravelle	2410	2558	2665
Viscount	936	796	657
F-27	2185	2287	2482
HS-748	2081	2564	2593

(c) The Corporation have placed an order for three Airbus A300B2 aircraft, which are due to be delivered in the last quarter of 1976 and expected to be progressively put into operation from December, 1976. These aircraft will have a seating capacity of 278 passengers and cargo capacity to the tune of 10 to 12 metric tonnes.

Amendment to Central Sales Tax Act

1876. SHRI SUKHDEO PRASAD VERMA: Will the Minister of REVENUE AND BANKING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to amend the Central Sales Tax Act to provide some tax relief for export-oriented goods; and

(b) if so, the salient features thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN-CHARGE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE AND BANKING (SHRI PRANAB KUMAR MUKHERJEE): (a) and (b). It is proposed to amend the Central Sales Tax Act, 1956 and a Bill including *inter-alia* an amendment to the Act to this effect is proposed to be introduced in the current session of Lok Sabha

Raids on Hoarders, Smugglers and Economic Offenders

1877. SHRI SHANKERRAO SAVANT: Will the Minister of REVENUE AND BANKING be pleased to state:

(a) the total wealth unearthed by raids on hoarders, smugglers and economic offenders during 1974-75, 1975-76 and 1976-77 (upto 31st July, 1976); and

(b) how much tax and penalty was recovered from this unearthed wealth in each of these years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN-CHARGE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE AND BANKING (SHRI PRANAB KUMAR MUKHERJEE): (a) The value of assets seized in the search and seizure operations conducted by the Income-tax authorities for unearthing unaccounted for income/assets during 1974-75, 1975-76 and 1976-77 (upto 31-7-76) is as under:—

	Value of assets seized
	(Rs. in lakhs)
1974-75	1713
1975-76	2135
1976-77 (upto 31-7-76	510

(b) In a case involving seizure of valuable assets/books of account etc., completion of regular assessment(s) requires detailed enquiry including scrutiny of the seized books of account and giving due opportunity to the assessee to give his explanation(s) etc This is a time consuming process.

The information as to tax and penalty recovered in respect of the cases involving the above seizures and in which assessments have been completed so far is not available and its collection will involve time and labour not commensurate with the results likely to be achieved. If the Hon'ble Member desires to have information in respect of any particular case(s), the same can be collected and furnished.

Utilisation of Amount Deposited in Post Office Savings Schemes

1878. SHRI R. N. BARMAN: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether amounts deposited in post office saving banks in a particular State can be utilised for the economic development of that particular State; and

(b) if so, the State-wise break up of small savings during 1975 and how has this amount been utilised by the respective States?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHATGI): (a) The deposits in post post office savings banks are receipts of the Central Government. However, loans are given by the Central Government for development purposes, according to a prescribed formula, to each State Government against net small savings collections in that State

(b) Statewise figures of net small savings collections during the period April 1975 to March 1976, and the loans advanced to them (against collections upto February, 1976) are given in the statement laid on the Table of the House. [*Placed in Library. See* No. LT-11267/76]. These receipts form part of the total resources of the State Governments concerned and it is not possible to identify separately the purposes for which the funds have been utilised.

Setting up of Industrial Development Bank in Eastern Zone

1879 SHRI R. N. BARMAN: Will the Minister of REVENUE AND BANKING be pleased to state·

(a) whether some of the Chief Ministers of the eastern States have urged upon the Centre to set up a separate Industrial Development Bank for the Eastern States;

(b) whether in memorandum they have pointed out that the present facilities are not adequate; and

(c) if so, the nature of suggestions made and Centre's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN-CHARGE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE AND BANKING (SHRI PRANAB KUMAR MUKHERJEE): (a) to (c). The Chief Minister of Bihar in his letter to the Finance Minister had suggested that either a Regional Industrial Development Bank should be set up with headquarters in Patna or the regional office of the Industrial Development Bank of India (IDBI) at Patna should be strengthened in personnel and fully empowered to sanction project finance needs. The Chief Minister was *inter-alia* informed that

(i) steps were being taken by the term lending financial institutions as also the public sector banks to secure enlarged flow of credit assistance for investment in the State of Bihar. Significant results would, however, require adequate infrastructrual development and matching developmental support from the State authorities and organisations.

(ii) the Regional Office of the IDBI which is serving the eastern States was upgraded in March, 1976 and more powers were delegated, to this office.

(iii) the Branch Office of the IDBI at Patna was being upgraded more powers.

In addition, considering the need for a more balanced regional industrial development, the IDBI and the other financial institutions have taken the following steps for industrial development of eastern region:—

(i) With the opening of a separate regional office of the IDBI at Gauhati for North Eastern

Region in September 1976, the Calcutta office would be in a better position to cater to the requirements of eastern region.

(ii) The IDBI and the Industrial Finance Corporation (IFC) have branch offices at Bhubaneswar.

(iii) The IDBI had set up in April, 1971 the Industrial Reconstruction Corporation of India at Calcutta for the provision of reconstruction and rehabilitation assistance to sick industrial units. Its assistance has mostly gone to West Bengal and eastern region.

(iv) The IDBI in collaboration with the other financial institution has undertaken industrial potential surveys in States of Bihar and Orissa and Union Territory of Andaman and Nicobar Islands to identify viable project ideas

) The IDBI set up in June 1974, Bihar Industrial and Technical Consultancy Organisation at Patna and in July 1976 Orissa Industrial and Technical Consultancy Organisation to cater to the need of the entrepreneurs and institutions of Bihar and Orissa States

i) The IFC and the Industrial Credit and Investment Corporation of India have regional offices at Calcutta, the IFC has also branch office at Patna with a view to maintaining close liaison with Government Departments and bodies connected with industrial development in that region.

Fancy bids for tea gardens

1880. SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the substantial improvement in the fortunes of the Tea Industry in the course of the last two years has brought eager bidders for tea gardens at fancy prices;

(b) whether the prices currently offered for the tea gardens are far higher than those that prevailed in 1974 and the increase in prices ranges between 50 and 100 percent; and

(c) if so, the facts thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH): (a) to (c). No information is available about the sale of tea gardens owned by Indian Companies. In the case of Sterling Tea Gardens, it is true that prices currently offered are higher than those offered two years ago. However, a meaningful comparison of prices offered for tea estates in 1976 with those in 1974 would be possible only when sufficient number of cases from the same tea growing area are available.

Steps to encourage construction of low cost lodgings, boarding houses and hotels for tourists

1881 SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) the steps so far taken to encourage construction of low cost lodgings, boarding houses and hotels for Indian as well as foreign tourists who cannot afford to stay at posh hotels;

(b) whether his Ministry maintains an approved list of such establishments in big cities/towns;

(c) what are the requirements and criteria laid down for such establishments for getting enlisted in Government approved list and whether names of such establishments are published regularly in all Government published tourist guides;

(d) if so, the list of such establishments in big cities/towns; and

(e) the average daily rates prevalent in these establishments with break fast and with full board?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SURENDRA PAL SINGH): (a) During the Second and Third Five Year Plans, the Central Department of Tourism set-up a chain of low income group Tourist Bungalows, a list of which is laid on the Table of the House. [*Placed in Library. See* No. LT-11268/76]

In addition to that, during the Fourth and Fifth Five Year Plans the Department of Tourism has launched a scheme of setting up inexpensive accommodation in the form of youth hostels, tourist bungalows and camping sites with a view to catering to the needs of middle and low income group tourists both foreign and domestic. Within the frame work of this scheme, 14 Youth Hostels and seven Tourist Bungalows are already functioning. One Youth Hostel and four Tourist Bungalows are expected to be completed shortly.

(b) to (e). The Department of Tourism approves only hotels from the point of view of their suitability for foreign tourists and such hotels, along with the tariff approved in each case, are listed in the Hotel Guide which is brought out by the Department of Tourism annually. Such approved hotels are mentioned in the relevant tourist publicity literature also. The room rent in a Youth Hostel is Rs. 4/- per head per night. In a Tourist Bungalow, it is Rs. 25/- to Rs. 35/- per day for double occupancy and Rs. 20/- to Rs. 25/- per day for single occupancy. In a 1-Star category hotel which can be used by low-income group tourists, it ranges from Rs. 25/- to Rs. 50/- for single occupancy and from Rs. 45/- to Rs. 80/- for double occupancy approximately.

Transport of Iron Ore from Karwar and Belekeri ports for export to foreign countries

1882. SHRI B. V. NAIK: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether he has received any reports regarding slow down in the transport of iron ore from the ports of Karwar and Belekeri for onward export to ore-consuming countries;

(b) if so, from whom and his reactions thereon;

(c) whether there are enough iron ore traffic potential between Hubli Karwar and Belekeri to justify a rail line; and

(d) if so, whether his Ministry has informed Railway Ministry in this regard?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH): (a) to (d). The Government is aware of the decrease in export of iron ore from ports of Karwar and Belekeri. Shri B. V. Naik had also raised this question during discussions with the Commerce Minister. The port has now been taken over by the State Government and exports will be resumed shortly.

The present traffic of ore is not sufficient to justify construction of a rail line between Hubli Karwar and Belekeri.

Exhibition in Poland

1883. SHRI SHYAM SUNDER MOHAPATRA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether C.B.I. enquiry against a private firm which had organised exhibition in Poland is complete; and

(b) if so, what are the findings?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH): (a) and (b). The matter relating to submission of accounts of foreign exchange released to the organisation of the exhibitions is being looked into by Enforcement Directorate on the basis of information supplied to them by C.B.I. and this Ministry. The organisation claims to have submitted the full accounts to R.B.I. Enforcement Directorate is awaiting its final confirmation from R.B.I.

Officers of Directorate of Exhibition Under C.B.I. Enquiry

1884. SHRI SHYAM SUNDER MOHAPATRA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state how many officers of the Directorate of Exhibitions are at present under C.B.I enquiry?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH): No Officer of the Directorate of Exhibitions is at present under C.B.I. Enquiry.

Allegations against Officers during last Dubai Fair

1885. SHRI SHYAM SUNDER MOHAPATRA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state

(a) whether any allegation of malpractice and impropriety on the part of Exhibition Officers during last Dubai Fair has come to the notice of his Ministry;

(b) if so, who are those officers and what action has been taken against them; and

(c) whether his Ministry obtains a confidential report about officers deputed to exhibitions abroad from the concerned Indian Ambassador?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH): (a) and (b). A complaint regarding the standard of the exhibition and impropriety on the part of those responsible for organising it was brought to the notice of the Ministry. Immediately on receipt of the complaint a confidential enquiry was made from the Ambassador who, in his reply, completely rebutted the complaint and stated that there was no truth in it.

(c) The Ministry always obtains a report from the Embassy on fairparticipations and exhibitions and if any complaint is received, as in the present case, a specific enquiry is made from the Embassy.

Unemployed Commercial Pilots

1886 SHRI D B. CHANDRA GOWDA: Will the Minister of TOURTOURISM AND CILIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether there are some unemployed commercial pilots at present in the country; and

(b) if so, the measures Government have taken to absorb them?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI RAJ BAHADUR): (a) Yes, Sir. There are about 200 unemployed pilots at present in the country.

(b) The following steps have been taken by Government to assist them in securing employment:—

(1) Rules for direct recruitment to the post of Assistant Aerodrome Officer in the Civil Aviation Department were amended to include Commercial Pilot's Licence as one of the acceptable qualifications;

(2) Ministry of Agriculture & Irrigation (Department of Agriculture) have agreed to consider unemployed commercial pilots for conversion training for crop spraying operations;

(3) Indian Airlines and Air India have been advised to utilize unemployed commercial pilots to the extent possible;

(4) State Governments have been requested to give consideration to CPL holders for employment under them wherever possible.

International Fund for Agricultural Development

1887. SHRI RAGHUNANDAN LAL BHATIA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether India has suggested any formula in the launching of International fund for agricultural development at a preparatory meeting of 18 countries held in June, 1976 in Rome; and

(b) final decision arrived at?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI C. SUBRAMANIAM): (a) and (b). India attended the Plenipotentiaries Conference held in Rome in June, 1976 and emphasized the need for the early establishment of the International Fund for Agricultural Development. It was decided by the conference that the Agreement establishing the Fund would be opened for signature as soon as the initial contributions amount to atleast the equivalent of 1000 million United States dollars.

Simplification of procedure for giving loans

1888. SHRI P. M. MEHTA: Will the Minister of REVENUE AND BANKING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have asked the nationalised banks to simplify the procedure for giving loans particularly to the poor; and

(b) if so, whether Government have issued any directions in this regard and if so, the gist of the guidelines issued?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN-CHARGE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE AND BANKING (SHRI PRANAB KUMAR MUKHERJEE): (a) and (b). Reserve Bank of India have issued instructions to commercial banks to simplify and rationalise their lending procedures, particularly in respect of financial assistance to priority sector and banks are implementing these instructions. Banks have already introduced simplified application forms in respect of advances to agriculture and small scale industries etc. in regional languages. Assistance is also provided to such borrowers for filling up application forms and submission of required data wherever necessary. Adequate powers have been delegated to the Branch Managers so that a major portion of the loans to borrowers is promptly sanctioned at branch level itself. Banks also review from time to time their internal procedures with a view to further simplifying the process of sanctioning loan.

Documents seized from the House of Income Tax Officials

1889. SHRI P. M. MEHTA: Will the Minister of REVENUE AND BANKING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Central Bureau of Investigation has seized documents from the house of an income-tax officer pertaining to fixed deposits, bank locker and share in various firms worth several lakhs of rupees in New Delhi on 23rd June, 1976;

(b) if so, what action has been taken against the official; and

(c) what further measures are being considered to deal with this situation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN-CHARGE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE AND BANKING (SHRI PRANAB KUMAR MUKHERJEE): (a) No house search of an Income-tax Officer was conducted at New Delhi on the 23rd June, 1976. However, a search by the Central Bureau of Investigation of the residential premises of an Income-tax Officer in Calcutta on the 19th June, 1976 led to recovery of cash and documents revealing the existence of bank accounts, fixed deposits, shares, and other assets, of substantial value. The existence of a bank locker was also revealed;

(b) The Central Bureau of Investigation is still conducting investigation of the case.

(c) Constant vigilance is maintained to detect such cases for appropriate action after due investigation.

Steps to revive Economic Growth

1890. SHRI P. M. MEHTA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have taken some calculated risks by stepping up investment with the hope that economic growth rate will pick up;

(b) if so, the main points of the scheme;

(c) the extent to which Government have achieved success; and

(d) whether this has not resulted in decline in the prices of all commodities?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI C SUBRAMANIAM): (a) and (b). The rationale and the assumptions under which the Government has stepped-up investment outlay for the year 1976-77 with a view to achieve a better rate of growth have been spelled out both in the Budget Speech for 1976-77 and in the Annual Plan document for that year. Broadly, the main factors taken into account in effecting a substantial increase in investment in priority sectors are, a highly satisfactory level of buffer stock of foodgrains, substantial accretions to foreign exchange reserves, better availability of agricultural and industrial inputs and the existence of unutilised capacity in certain private sector industries. In view of these favourable factors and the Government's policy to continue strict monetary and fiscal discipline, it was considered that a significant step-up in investment outlay would not impair price stability.

(c) and (d). As the investment outlay contemplated for 1976-77 is spread over the whole fiscal year it would be difficult to assess its economic impact as of now. However, its beneficial effects have been unfolding gradually in the form of increased industrial production and improved sentiment on stock exchanges, etc. Output increases generally have a sobering effect on prices and therefore, it is possible to expect this trend to manifest itself in due course.

Districts chosen by IDBI for intensive Development

1891. SARDAR SWARAN SINGH SOKHI: Will the Minister of REVENUE AND BANKING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Industrial Development Bank of India has decided to adopt only four Districts in the whole country for intensive development;

(b) if so, the names of the States and whether any of the Districts in Bihar come under these Districts; and

(c) the criterion of selection of these Districts?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN-CHARGE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE AND BANKING (SHRI PRANAB KUMAR MUKHERJEE): (a) The Industrial Development Bank of India has neither adopted nor proposes to adopt four districts in the whole country for intensive development work.

(b) and (c). Do not arise.

Bank loans to Adivasis for Rehabilitation

1892. SARDAR SWARAN SINGH SOKHI: Will the Minister of REVENUE AND BANKING be pleased to state:

(a) whether any directions have been given to the nationalised banks including the State Bank of India for giving loans to Adivasi families for their rehabilitation;

(b) if so, when; and

(c) the figures of such loans given to adivasi families especially in Chhotanagpur region, in Bihar State this year so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN-CHARGE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE AND BANKING (SHRI PRANAB KUMAR MUKHERJEE): (a) and (b). While no specific directions as such have been given to the public sector banks for giving loans to adivasi families for thir rehabilitation, adivasis, who belong to Scheduled Tribes, are given concessional finance at 4 per cent rate of interest under the Differential Rate of Interest Scheme.

In June 1976 the Reserve Bank of India has issued guidelines to scheduled commercial banks on housing loans for weaker sections of the community.

(c) Banks do not maintain separate data in respect of their advances to adivasis.

Financing of Scheme for construction of Houses for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes in Bihar

1893. SHRI M. S. PURTY: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have any proposal under consideration for financing construction of houses for persons belonging to Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes in pursuance of the 20-point Economic Programme in the State of Bihar; and

(b) if so, the main features thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHATGI): (a) and (b). No specific proposal for financing construction of houses for persons belonging to Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes in the State of Bihar in pursuance of the 20-point Economic Programme has been received by the Government of India.

Local Head Offices of S.B.I.

1894. PROF. NARAIN CHAND PARASHAR: Will the Minister of REVENUE AND BANKING be pleased to state:

(a) the names of the local head offices of the State Bank of India along with number of branches/sub-offices controlled by each one of them as on 30th June, 1976;

(b) whether the Head Office like New Delhi having more than 650 branches is proposed to be split into new Head Offices with Headquarters at Simla and Chandigarh/Srinagar, to ensure a better control of the branches under them;

(c) whether any demand for the creation of additional local Head Offices and the splitting of New Delhi Head Office has been received by Government; and

(d) the likely date by which the Government would take a decision on the said demand?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN-CHARGE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE AND BANKING (SHRI PRANAB KUMAR MUKHERJEE): (a) The names of the local head offices of the State Bank of India and the number of branches/sub-offices controlled by each one of them, as on 30th June, 1976 are set out in the statement attached.

(b) to (d). Government and State Bank of India have received and considered demands for creation of new local head offices at different centres including Chandigarh The Bank have, however, reported that they do not propose to create any more circles for the present.

Statement

The number of branches and sub-offices under the control of each of the 9 local head offices of the State Bank of India, as on 30th June, 1976, were as given below:—

Sl. No.	Location of the local head office	No. of branches controlled	No. of Sub-offices c rtr lled
1	Bengal	409	140
2	Bombay	298	88
3	Madras	351	113
4	Delhi	417	272
5	Kanpur	330	142
6	Ahmedabad	181	88
7	Hyderabad	257	138
8	Bhopal	201	107
9	Patna	214	177

Investments made by LIC

1895. SHRI N. K. SANGHI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether as against the initial investment of Rs. 5 crores at the time of formation of the Life Insurance Corporation, Government have so far received Rs. 30 6 crores as its share of valuation surplus from the Corporation;

(b) whether because of statutory obligations, the LIC has to invest only in low yielding Government projects and as such its share of profit is kept low; and

(c) whether the administrative cost is steadily rising and as a cumulative effect of all these LIC has failed either to increase bonus to the policy holders or reduce the rate of premium and if so, what is Government's reaction in this regard?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHATGI): (a) Under Section 28 of the L.I.C. Act 1956, 95 per cent of such surplus or such higher percentage thereof as may be approved by the Central Government is to be allocated to or reserved for the life insurance policyholders of the Corporation and the balance after any further adjustments,

is to be paid to the Central Government. The Corporation has been allocating to its life insurance policyholders 95 per cent of the surpluses emerging at the various valuations and the balance of 5 per cent of the surplus disclosed by the various valuations upto and including the one as at 31st March, 1973 amounted to Rs. 30.6 crores.

(b) A cardinal principle for the investments of a life insurance company is to earn the maximum possible yield consistent with the safety of capital and that the investments should meet socially desirable ends. Guidelines for the LIC's investments have been devised with this principle in view and are broadly similar to the statutory pattern which applied to the investments of the erstwhile life insurers before nationalisation. According to these guidelines, the LIC is required to invest not less than 75 per cent of the annual accrual to its controlled fund in socially-oriented sector, of which not less than 50 per cent should be in Central and State Governments securities. The relatively low yield on these investments has to be judged in the context of the social purpose which they serve.

(c) The LIC's bonus has gradually increased from Rs. 12.80 and Rs. 16.00 per thousand sum assured per annum on Endowment Assurances and Whole Life Assurances respectively in 1957 to Rs. 17.60 and Rs. 22.00 respectively. No further increase has been possible since 1969 owing to the adverse effect of inflation on its expenses. Also the gains in improvement in mortality experience are being passed on to the insuring public, in that the Corporation is now insuring those lives that were previously not insurable or were insurable subject to restrictions. The LIC has also reduced, after detailed review, the premium rates under certain Without Profit Plans of Assurances.

Though the Life Insurance Corporation has experienced improvement over the years both in mortality and in the return on investments, it has not been possible to reduce the premium rates under with profit plans or to increase the bonus rates because this favourable development has been off-set, *inter-alia*, by a steep rise in its expenses of management due to inflation. In the wake of Emergency there has been stabilisation of the economy and general toning up of discipline and productivity in the LIC, but this trend for improvement must get established on a long term basis before credit therefor can be taken by the valuing Actuary. It was, therefore, decided by the LIC to defer consideration of any revision of premium rates under with-profit plans till such time as expenses have stabilised. Government hopes that this matter will be considered by the LIC as soon as it finds it feasible to do so.

Permission to Private Industry by S.T.C. to export Cement

1896. SHRI N. K. SANGHI: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether State Trading Corporation has permitted the private industry to export cement on certain conditions;

(b) if so, the conditions stipulated for this purpose; and

(c) how has the scheme been functioning?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH): (a) No, Sir. STC continues to be the sole canalising agency for the export of cement.

(b) and (c). Do not arise.

Introduction of Air Taxis

1897. SHRI N. K. SANGHI: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether at present the cities a population of less than a lakh are not connected with air transport;

(b) if so, whether Government have considered the feasibility of introducing small air taxis to meet the needs of the passengers of these places; and

(c) if so, the main features of the plan drawn up in this connection?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI RAJ BAHADUR): (a) Indian Airlines operations are based on traffic demand and not population. The Corporation are operating air services to places such as Bhuj, Jorhat, Keshod, Khajuraho, Lilabari, Port Blair, Tezpur having a population of less than one lakh

(b) and (c). There is no specific scheme ready so far for providing air services between small towns However, the possibility of air linking small towns by suitable smaller aircraft is under study.

Establishment of Tea Blending Industries in India

1898. SHRI P. GANGADEB: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state

(a) whether the entire Indian tea that is being exported is not blended in our country;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the measures adopted to ensure establishment of tea blending industries in India to boost employment potential and increase direct foreign exchange earnings?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH): (a) and (b). Tea is supplied to importers abroad according to their requirements and specifications. Most of the importing countries have their own blending facilities, and teas of different origins are blended and packeted by them depending on the level of prices, tastes and preferences of local consumers. Only about 25 per cent of our tea exports are in blended form.

(c) India has adequate expertise in the field of tea blending Government is taking steps to improve exports of processed and finished products of tea like packet tea, tea bags and instant tea with a view to augmenting the overall export earnings from tea. M/s. Tea Trading Corporation of India, a public sector corporation, has already been set up with this objective. Government has classified these items as 'non-traditional' and different types of incentives like cash compensatory support, rebate on excise duty, drawback of duties on packing materials, import replenishment, permission for import of machineries and materials etc. have been granted to the exporters of these items These facilities will, no doubt, help encourage new firms to enter this field

Loans to States for covering Resources required for consumption needs of poor people

1899. SHRI P. GANGADEB: Will the Minister of REVENUE AND BANKING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Union Government propose to give loans to State Governments to cover two-third of resources needed by them to meet the consumption needs of the weaker section of the society;

(b) if so, the principles governing the grant of consumption loans; and

(c) whether reserve fund would be created to be shared equally by the Centre and the States?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN-CHARGE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE AND BANKING (SHRI PRANAB KUMAR MUKHERJEE): (a) The details of the proposal to give loan to State Governments by the Central Government to cover two-thirds of the finances needed to meet the pure consumption needs of the poorer sections of the rural area, which cannot be met by the cooperatives i.e., the needs of the 'grey' areas, is at present under Government's consideration.

(b) The required information is given in the attached statement.

(c) There is a proposal to create a 'Risk Fund' covering 10 per cent of the pure consumption credit given, to be shared equally by the Centre and the States.

Statement

According to the Expert Committee on Consumption Credit (Sivaraman Committee) the broad principles for providing pure consumption credit will be as follows·

1. The loans for *pure* consumption needs will be provided to the poorer sections of rural areas having nil land holdings and holders upto 0.50 acre. Consumption credit to persons with holdings above 0 50 acre and upto 5 acres will, however, be considered alongwith their production credit requirements.

2 The purposes for and extent upto which consumption loans to be provided are as follows:

Type of loan	Ceiling of loan fixed at
	Rs.
(a) Medical expenses relating to borrowers and members of their families	250
(b) Education expenses for school	100
(c) Marriage expenses	250
(d) Expenses on funeral ceremonies as well as birth ceremonies	75
(e) Expenses on religious ceremonies which are deeply rooted and considered inescapable by certain sections of society	75

3. The credit will be need based and will be subject to the repaying capacity of the borrower.

4. The primary agricultural credit societies organised into viable units, farmers' service societies and the large-sized multipurpose societies in tribal areas will be the main agency to handle the business of providing consumption credit Commercial banks and Regional Rural Banks should also porvide consumption credit on the same lines as by the co-operatives.

Modification for V.H.F. Communication System developed by Air India

1900. SHRI P. GANGADEB: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Air-India as developed a modification for the V.H.F. Com-

munication system on its fleet of Boeings-707,

(b) if so, whether this had resulted in the savings in foreign exchange, and

(c) if so, the facts thereof?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI RAJ BAHADUR) (a) to (c) Yes, Sir Air-India were offered Boeing Master Change for Boeing-707 aircraft at US dollars 17000 per aircraft for meeting their future requirement of 25 KHz channel spacing on V H F Communications System The manufacturers of the Boeing aircraft had also advised replacement of V H F control panels at a cost of US dollars 300 each Air-India developed a modification of their own achieving similar results as Boeing Master Change The existing control panels were also modified by replacing control switch, only at a cost of US dollars 200 each This resulted in a foreign exchange saving of approximately US dollars 2 lakhs

Applications for financing assistance pending with IFCI and IDBI

1901 SHRI S R DAMANI Will the Minister of REVENUE AND BANKING be pleased to state

(a) the number of pending applications for financial assistance with Industrial Finance Corporation of India and Industrial Development Bank of India on 1st April, 1975, the number of applications received during 1975-76 and upto 30th June, in the current year,

(b) the group-wise items of manufacture;

(c) the amounts asked for expansion of existing capacity or for setting up new units,

(d) the number of applications approved and amounts sanctioned; and

(e) the amounts actually disbursed so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN-CHARGE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE AND BANKING (SHRI PRANAB KUMAR MUKHERJEE): (a) to (e) The required information in respect of Industrial Finance Corporation of India is given in the Statements I and II and in respect of Industrial Development Bank of India is given in the Statements III and IV laid on the Table of the House. [*Placed in Library See* No LT-11269/76]

There is inevitably a time lag between sanction and disbursement depending on various factors such as compliance with pre-conditions for assistance, receipt of Government approval for convertible loan, establishment of clear title to property Further the assistance is disbursed in instalments with reference to the progress in the implementation of the project

अभ्रक व्यापार का विकास

1902. **श्री शंकर दयाल सिंह :** क्या वाणिज्य मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि भारत में अभ्रक के व्यापार की क्या सम्भावनाएं हैं और इस व्यापार के अग्रेतर विकास के लिए सरकार द्वारा क्या कार्यवाही की जा रही है ?

वाणिज्य मंत्रालय में उपमंत्री (श्री विश्वनाथ प्रताप सिंह) : सरकार, इलैक्ट्रानिक्स विभाग तथा केन्द्रीय काच मत्तिका अनुसंधान संस्थान के जरिए अभ्रक के नए अन्तिम उपयोगों का पता लगाने का प्रयास कर रही है। अभ्रक बनाने के संयत्र लगाने के लिए विदेशी सहयोग की सभी प्रार्थनाओं पर गुणावगुण के आधार पर विचार किया जाता है। देश के भीतर अभ्रक का व्यापार बढ़ाने की दृष्टि से अभ्रक की निर्यात नीति की भी निरन्तर समीक्षा की जाती है।

Report regarding cost of production of Natural Rubber

1903. SHRIMATI BHARGAVI THANKAPPAN: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the question of fixing up revised minimum price of natural rubber has been under consideration of Government for a long time;

(b) whether the Rubber Board has submitted to Government its report regarding the cost of production of natural rubber;

(c) if so, when; and

(d) whether Government have taken any final decisions in this regard?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH): (a) to (c). Rubber Board has recently submitted a report on the cost of production and price of raw rubber.

(d) No, Sir.

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12 hrs.

PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE

Cotton Control (Amendment) Orders, 1976

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (PROF. D P. CHATTOPADHYAYA): I beg to lay on the Table a copy each of the following Notifications (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (6) of section 3 of the Essential Commodities Act, 1955:—

(i) The Cotton Control (Amendment) Order, 1976 published in Notification No. S.O. 1935 in Gazette of India dated the 12th June, 1976.

(ii) The Cotton Control (Second Amendment) Order 1976, published in Notification No. S.O. 517(E) in Gazette of India dated the 31st July, 1976.

[*Placed in Library. See* No. LT-11245/76.]

Statement for delay in laying Report of Development Council for Food Processing Industries for 1971—73

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI B. P. MAURYA): I beg to lay on the Table a statement (Hindi and English versions) explaining the reasons for delay in laying the Report of the Development Council for Food Processing Industries for the years 1971—73. [*Placed in Library. See* No. LT-11246/76.]

Report of Deposit Insurance Corporation, Bombay for 1975, Notifications under Customs Act and Central Excise Rules, Delhi Sales Tax (1st Amendment) Rules, 1976, with statement for delay, Notification under Gujarat Sales Tax Act with statement for delay and Notification under Tamil Nadu Chit Funds Act with statement for delay.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN CHARGE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE AND BANKING (SHRI PRANAB KUMAR MUKHERJEE): I beg to lay on the Table—

(1) A copy of the Report (Hindi and English versions) on the working of the Deposit Insurance Corporation, Bombay, for the year ended the 31st December, 1975, along with the Audited Accounts, under sub-section (2) of section 32 of the Deposit Insurance Corporations Act, 1961. [*Placed in Library. See* No. LT-11247/76.]

(2) A copy each of the following Notifications (Hindi and English versions) under section 159 of the Customs Act, 1962:—

(i) G S R 746(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 2nd August, 1976.

(ii) G.S.R. 760(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 9th August, 1976.

[Shri Pranab Kumar Mukherjee]

(iii) GSR 762(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 18th August, 1976 together with an explanatory memorandum

[*Placed in Library See* No LT-11248/76]

(3) A copy of Notification No GSR 493(E) (Hindi and English versions) published in Gazette of India dated the 1st August 1976, issued under the Central Excise Rules, 1944 together with an explanatory memorandum

[*Placed in Library See* No LT-11249/76]

(4) (i) A copy of the Delhi Sales Tax (First Amendment) Rules, 1976 (Hindi version) published in Notification No F4/61/75-Fin (G) in Delhi Gazette dated the 22nd April 1976 under section 72 of the Delhi Sales Tax Act 1975

(ii) A statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the above Notification

[*Placed in Library See* No LT-11250/76]

(5) (i) A copy of Notification No (GHN52) GST 1076/(S 49)-(49)-TH published in Gujarat Government Gazette dated the 28th July 1976 making certain amendment to Notification No (GHN 627) GST 1070/(S 49)-TH dated the 29th April 1070/(S 49)-TH dated the 29th April 1970 under sub-section (3) of section 49 of the Gujarat Sales Tax Act, 1969 read with clause (c) (iii) of the Proclamation dated the 12th March 1976 issued by the President in relation to the State of Gujarat

(ii) A statement (Hindi and English versions) explaining the reasons for not laying the Hindi version of the above Notification

[*Placed in Library See* No LT-11251/76]

(6) (i) A copy of Notification No GO Ms 620 (Hindi and English versions) published in Tamil Nadu Government Gazette dated the 26th May, 1976 under sub-section (4) of section 63 of the Tamil Nadu Chit Funds Act, 1961 read with clause (c) (iv) of the Proclamation dated the 31st January, 1976 issued by the President in relation to the State of Tamil Nadu

(ii) A statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the above Notification

[*Placed in Library See* No LT-11252/76]

ANNUAL REPORT WITH AUDITED ACCOUNTS OF EXPORT INSPECTION COUCIL AND AGENCIES FOR 1974-75 AUDIT REPORT ON ACCOUNTS OF TEA BOARD FOR 1973-74 NOTIFICATIONS UNDER EXPORT (QUALITY CONTROL AND INSPECTION) ACT 1963, [TEXTILES COMMITTEE (APPEAL TO THE TRIBUNAL) RULES 1976 AND REVIEW AND ANNUAL REPORT OF TAMIL NADU TEXTILE CORPORATION LTD MADRAS FOR 1974

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH) I beg to lay on the Table –

(1) A copy each of (i) Annual Report and (ii) Audited Accounts (Hindi and English versions) of the Export Inspection Council and Agencies for the year 1974-75 under sub-rule (3) of Rule 16 of the Export (Quality Control and Inspection) Rules 1964 [*Placed in Library See* No LT-11253/76]

(2) A copy of the Audit Report (Hindi and English versions) on the Accounts of the Tea Board for the year 1973-74 along with the statement of Accounts [*Placed in Library See* No LT-11254/76]

(3) A copy each of the following Notifications (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (3) of section 17 of the Export (Quality Control and Inspection) Act, 1963 —

(i) The Export of Footwear (Inspection) Second Amendment Rules 1976 published in Notification No SO 2129 in Gazette of India dated the 19th June, 1976

(ii) The Export of Inorganic Chemical (Inspection) Amendment Rules, 1976, published in Notification No. S.O. 2559 in Gazette of India dated the 10th July, 1976.

[*Placed in Library. See* No. LT-11255/76].

(4) A copy of the Textiles Committee (Appeal to the Tribunal) Rules, 1976 (Hindi and English versions) published in Notification No. G.S.R. 296(E) in Gazette of India dated the 19th April, 1976, under sub-section (3) of section 22 of the Textiles Committee Act, 1963. [*Placed in Library. See* No. I T-11256/76.]

(5) A copy each of the following papers under sub-section (3) of section 619-A of the Companies Act, 1956, read with clause (c) (iv) of the Proclamation dated the 31st January, 1976 issued by the President in relation to the State of Tamil Nadu:—

(i) Review by the Government of Tamil Nadu on the working of the Tamil Nadu Textile Corporation Limited, Madras, for the year ended 31st December, 1974.

(ii) Annual Report of the Tamil Nadu Textile Corporation Limited, Madras, for the year ended 31st December, 1974 along with the Audited Accounts and the comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.

[*Placed in Library. See* Nos. LT-11257/76 LT-11255/76.]

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12.02 hrs.

COMMITTEE ON PRIVATE MEMBERS' BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

MINUTES

SHRI G. G. SWELL (Autonomous Districts): I beg to lay on the Table Minutes of the Sixty-ninth and Seventieth Sittings of the Committee on Private Members' Bills and Resolutions held during the current session.

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COMMITTEE ON ABSENCE OF MEMBERS

MINUTES

SHRI VEKARIA (Junagadh): I beg to lay on the Table Minutes of the sitting of the Committee on Absence of Members from the Sittings of the House held on the 25th August, 1976.

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MESSAGES FROM RAJYA SABHA

SECRETARY-GENERAL: Sir, I have to report the following messages received from the Secretary-General of Rajya Sabha:—

(i) "In accordance with the provisions of rule 127 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in the Rajya Sabha, I am directed to inform the Lok Sabha that the Rajya Sabha, at its sitting held on the 26th August, 1976, agreed without any amendment to the Burn Company and Indian Standard Wagon Company (Nationalisation) Bill 1976, which was passed by the Lok Sabha at its sitting held on the 24th August, 1976."

(ii) "In accordance with the provisions of rule 127 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in the Rajya Sabha, I am directed to inform the Lok Sabha that the Rajya Sabha at its sitting held on the 26th August, 1976, agreed without any amendment to the Braithwaite and Company (India) Limited (Acquisition and Transfer of Undertakings) Bill, 1976, which was passed by the Lok Sabha, at its sitting held on the 24th August, 1976."

(iii) "In accordance with the provisions of sub-rule (6) of rule 186 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in the Rajya Sabha, I am directed to return herewith the Delhi Sales Tax (Amendment and Validation) Bill, 1976 which was passed by the Lok Sabha at its sitting held on the 24th August, 1976, and transmitted to the Rajya Sabha

[Secretary-General]

for its recommendations and to state that this House has no recommendations to make to the Lok Sabha in regard to the said Bill."

12.04 hrs.

LEAVE OF ABSENCE OF MEMBERS FROM SITTINGS OF HOUSE

MR. SPEAKER: The Committee on Absence of Members from the Sittings of the House in their Twenty-ninth Report have recommended that leave of absence be granted to the following members for the periods indicated against each:—

(1) Shri P. Ganga Reddy	7th to 27th May, 1976 (Sixteenth Session)
(2) Shri Bhagirath Bhanwar	23rd to 27th May, 1976 (Sixteenth Session) and 10th to 31st August, 1976 (Seventeeth Session)
(3) Shri Mukhtiar Singh Malik	23rd to 27th May, 1976 (Sixteenth Session) and 10th to 31st August, (Seventeenth Session)
(4) Shri A. K. Gopalan	10th to 31st August, 1976 (Seventeenth Session)
(5) Shri Ram Dhan	23rd to 27th May, 1976 (Sixteenth Session) and 10th to 31st August, 1976 (Seventeenth Session)
(6) Shri Morarji R. Desai	23rd to 27th May, 1976 (Sixteenth Session) and 10th to 31st August, 1976 (Seventeenth Session)
(7) Dr. Jivraj Mehta	23rd to 27th May, 1976 (Sixteenth Session) and 10th to 31st August, 1976 (Seventeenth Session)
(8) Shri Jyotirmoy Bosu	23rd to 27th May, 1976 (Sixteenth Session) and 10th to 31st August, 1976 (Seventeenth Session)
(9) Shri Phool Chand Verma	23rd to 27th May, 1976 (Sixteenth Session) and 10th to 31st August, 1976 (Seventeenth Session)
(10) Shri C. Chittibabu	23rd to 27th May, 1976 (Sixteenth Session) and 10th to 31st August, 1976 (Seventeenth Session)
(11) Shri Murasoli Maran	23rd to 27th May, 1976 (Sixteenth Session) and 10th to 31st August, 1976 (Seventeenth Session)
(12) Shri Samar Guha	23rd to 27th May, 1976 (Sixteenth Session) and 10th to 31st August, 1976 (Seventeenth Session)
(13) Shri Gurdas Singh Bidal	10th to 24th August, 1976 (Seventeenth Session)

PUBLIC ACCOUNTS COMMITTEE

TWO HUNDRED AND TWENTY-FOURTH REPORT

SHRI H. N. MUKERJEE (Calcutta—North-east): I beg to present the Two Hundred and Twenty-fourth Report of the Public Accounts Committee on paragraphs relating to Railway Operations and Expenditure included in the Report of Comptroller and Auditor General of India for the year 1972-73—Union Government (Railways).

12.05 hrs.

STATEMENT RE. USE AND DEVELOPMENT OF CAUVERY WATERS

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION (SHRI JAGJIWAN RAM): As the House is aware the waters of the Cauvery are at present being fully utilised. There have been differences amongst the three States viz., Karnataka, Kerala and Tamil Nadu, regarding its use and further development. A number of meetings have been held with the Chief Ministers/Ministers of the States since 1970.

I convened a meeting of the Chief Ministers of the three States in November, 1974. This was followed by another meeting in February, 1975. Mutually acceptable settlement, however, could not be reached at those meetings. The matter was further discussed with the officers of the three States and studied in the light of the views expressed by the States.

I held a meeting with the Governor of Tamil Nadu, the Chief Minister of Karnataka and Irrigation and Electricity Ministers of Kerala on 25th August, 1976. The meeting lasted for over six hours and the discussions continued on 26th August also. All aspects of this complex matter were discussed. The discussions were frank. Each State expressed its view points which were appreciated by the others in a spirit of mutual accommodation. The talks led to an understanding which can be regarded as a land mark towards settlement of some of the most complex issues. I shall now give the salient features of the understanding reached amongst the three States.

The existing utilisation of Cauvery waters is 671 TMC comprising 489 TMC by Tamil Nadu, 177 TMC by Karnataka and 5 TMC by Kerala. There is scope for effecting economies in the present use without detriment to the existing ayacuts. Maximum possible economies in the present use would have to be effected so that waters thus saved, can be used to provide additional multipurpose benefits. There is need for integrated operation of reservoirs in the basin and for regulation of supplies to ensure optimum use and equitable distribution of waters. In a normal year, the existing areas under irrigation would have to be fully protected. A committee of the representatives of the Central and State Governments shall be constituted immediately to work out the manner of sharing the available waters in lean years. This committee will also work out quantities of surplus waters that may be presently available for use. The report of the committee will be submitted within three months for consideration at the next meeting of the Chief Ministers.

A Cauvery Valley Authority shall be constituted. It will comprise one irrigation engineer from each of the three States and will be presided over by an irrigation engineer nominated by the Centre. The functions and rules of procedure of the Cauvery Valley Authority will be drafted by a

[Shri Jagjiwan Ram]

committee of the Secretaries of the three States, and these will be considered at the next meeting of the Chief Ministers

The above understanding provides the basis for cooperation and further development of Cauvery waters in the most efficient manner

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12 08 hrs

BUSINESS OF THE HOUSE

THE MINISTER OF WORKS AND HOUSING AND PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI K RAGHU RAMAIAH) With your permission Sir, I rise to announce that Government Business in this House during the week commencing 30th August, 1976, will consist of —

1 Consideration and passing of —

(a) The Constitution (Forty Third Amendment) Bill 1976

(b) The Fifth Schedule to the Constitution (Amendment) Bill 1976

(c) The Kerala State Legislative Assembly (Extension of Duration) Second Amendment Bill 1976

2 Consideration of any item of Government Business carried over from today's Order Paper

3 Introduction consideration and passing of the Salaries and Allowances of Members of Parliament (Amendment) Bill, 1976 Relating to pension

4 Consideration and passing of the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes Orders (Amendment) Bill, 1976

I may add that I propose to introduce the Pensions Bill either on the 30th or on the 31st and take it up on the 1st Sir, I seek your indulgence to waive the necessary rules in this respect

BUSINESS ADVISORY COMMITTEE

SIXTY-FOURTH REPORT

THE MINISTER OF WORKS AND HOUSING AND PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI K RAGHU RAMAIAH) I beg to move

'That this House do agree with the Sixty fourth Report of the Business Advisory Committee presented to the House on the 26th August, 1976

Sir before you put it to the House, may I bring to the notice of the House one point which may otherwise go unnoticed namely that the Committee has recommended *inter alia* that the Lok Sabha will sit on Wednesday, the 1st September 1976 also

MR SPEAKER The question is

That this House do agree with the Sixty-fourth Report of the Business Advisory Committee presented to the House on the 26th August, 1976

The motion was adopted

12.16 hrs

FACTORIES (AMENDMENT) BILL—*contd.*

MR. SPEAKER: The House will now take up further consideration of the Factories (Amendment) Bill.

SHRI SAMAR MUKHERJEE (Howrah): Yesterday I spoke generally on the approach to the question of safety and the health hazards of the workers. Now I shall refer to some facts and how this problem is being seriously neglected not only by the employers, but also by the Government.

This amendment proposes to amend section 12 of the old Act. Here it is stated that effective arrangements shall be made in every factory for the treatment of wastes and effluents due to the manufacturing process carried on therein so as to render them innocuous and for their disposal. This amendment will in no way act as a deterrent to the factory owners.

The Gwalior Rayon and Silk Mills, Naga, is an example where the Birla management is ignoring all provisions of factory safety. The Chief Inspector has actually studied in Depth the question of safety in the rayon industry and found that the health of the workers is seriously affected due to the poisonous gas, carbon disulphide emitted while the viscose rayon was being manufactured. More than 15 years have passed after the publication of the report, but the management has refused to implement most of the recommendations. The Labour Ministry is just sleeping over these recommendations and Birlas continue to violate all these safety measures. The union there made several representations, but all these representations were kept in file.

The Report of the Chief Inspector mentions serious cases of T.B., impotency etc., but no action has been taken to prevent the recurrence of these occupational diseases. The Minister takes pleasure in quoting Marx against monopolists, but this is the behaviour of the monopolists, and he has been sleeping over the report for the last 15 years.

What is the result? It is having a ruinous effect on the health of the workers. I hope at least after this reference the Minister will see the file and the recommendations of the Chief Inspector and take some measures at least to stop this.

The Birlas in Nagda are letting out all poisonous effluents into the near by river. Some local leader from Nagda met me. The whole town is now vitiated by this poisonous atmosphere causing serious damage to the health of the town's population. The question was raised on several occasions, but the discharge of these effluents has not yet stopped. I hope the Government will act at least in this case.

Now, on the question of the Safety Committee, I may cite the example of the steel plants. The Steel Safety Committee is there, but it has four members nominated from the workers, while there are 20 on behalf of the management.

You can understand that the workers have no voice in the Committee. The workers and the trade unions who are more concerned with safety have the least voice in the committee. The Committee rarely meets and the meeting is a formal affair. Recently, the CITU representatives represented on the committee wrote to the authorities about the lack of functioning of the committee. But no action has been taken in the matter.

Then, the accidents in the steel plants have increased considerably after the proclamation of Emergency. I think, the Minister will look into the matter. In Durgapur Steel plant alone, during the last two months, several major acicdents have occurred.

[Shri Samar Mukherjee]

But when the recognised union the Hindustan Steel Employees' Union, brought the matter to the notice of the management, the union representatives were charge-sheeted on false pretext I have heard a report that when one worker was killed in the plant and the management did not send anybody to remove the dead body, there was discontent amongst the workers and the workers started gathering and, when they approached the superior officers in a deputation demanding immediate removal of the dead body, they were charge-sheeted

Every suggestion of the union to improve the safety measures in the plant is considered as a step to increase the production This Bill has provided increase in hours of work, from 10 hours to 12 hours This is a big concession to capitalists and employers. It is an imposition of increased workload on the workers The employers have related the question of safety with a step to increase production This is the feature of this Bill also

The officers who are responsible for the safety of the workers behave in a callous manner They should be severely punished Unless there are some stringent measures of punishment against this callousness on the part of the officers this will not stop This should be severely punished In practice, the workers are victimised for demanding proper safety measures

Further, this Bill does not provide strong penal measures including arrest and imprisonment In West Bengal, the incidence of accidents in jute industry is extremely high The management's imposition of increased workload is primarily responsible for it. This is evident from the official figures of accidents The hon Minister can see them Why is this being tolerated? In order to bring down the number of accidents in the record, a new practice has been introduced. This is a device to report only serious accidents. The practice that they have introduced is that accidents which are not serious should not be reported. Only serious accidents are reported. So, in the records, it can be shown that the number of accidents is decreasing Only the other day, in the other House, the Minister replied that from 1971 on wards, the incidence of accidents has come down by 25 per cent I do not know I hope, he will corroborate it By using this device, you can show further reduction in the number of accidents. So, this device to show reduction in the number of accidents must be stopped All accidents must be reported All accidents must be recorded Otherwise, these employers will get scope to suppress all these facts regarding increase in the number of accidents For this purpose, a concept of reporting only serious accidents is being evolved I demand that all accidents should be reported and a method should be evolved to inquire into all the accidents All accidents must be inquired into Stringent measures of punishment should also be there

The inspection machinery of the Government is only formal This is another serious matter I have got some figures here I have got these figures from the speeches in the other House in Maharashtra there are 49 inspectors for 12,000 factories In such a situation how can the inspectors visit so many factories, how can they report regarding so many accidents and how can accidents be checked? In West Bengal, there is one inspector for every 300 factories So this is only an eye-wash and nothing else This should be completely changed, and the number of inspectors and, in fact, the whole inspection machinery should be strengthened to such an extent that the inspectors can visit the factories regularly and see that the safety rules and regulations are followed by the management and in case of violations, severe punishment should be given

Apart from the fact that the staff of the Chief Inspector of Factories is totally inadequate and many factories are not visited in a year, the factory inspectors, in many cases, are unofficially treated as guests of the factory management. This is another basic weakness. These inspectors cannot give reports against the management, because, they are entertained by the management as their guests. Sometimes they stay in factory guest houses. One can imagine the fate of factory inspections under such circumstances.

The proceedings of investigation of cases are extremely dilatory, and punishment is so nominal that the employers do not care. This is the position. If Government is at all serious about safety of the workers and are anxious to prevent the health hazards, more stringent measures are necessary. This Bill is too inadequate to deal with the situation. The punishment is very nominal. I would request the Labour Minister to give some more thought to the dangerous working conditions and take expeditious steps to ensure safety in factories which alone will protect the lives of the workers. If these measures are not taken and the present situation is allowed to continue, the factories would soon become the slaughter-houses of workers. The employers are trying to push up production ignoring all safety rules; they are profiteering; they want to intensify the exploitation, and in conditions of today when this capitalist system is faced with a serious crisis, the entire burden of the crisis is being imposed on the workers as well as the common man There is no protection for them from the Government because the workers' voices are now throttled under the Emergency. They cannot launch even ordinary protests. The Emergency is now being used by the employers to intensify their exploitation and profit and to throttle the protests of the workers. Under these circumstances, a bigger responsibility rests on the Government to come to the defence of the workers, by ensuring their health, life, safety and security. In that respect, the Bill is too inadequate, though there are some good provisions, namely, that the definition of worker has been enlarged to cover some more sections of the workers. But if this neglect is not checked, if this callous attitude towards the lives of the workers is not changed, then no good results will be produced; the employers will only get a free hand to continue their exploitation.

SHRI C. M. STEPHEN (Muvattupuzha): The Minister told us while introducing the Bill as also while seeking the leave of the House for consideration of the Bill, that this is a result of a series of recommendations made at different forums and with a view to improve the functioning of the factories and the safety measures in the factories. To the extent the effort is made by the Government to improve the provisions in the Bill, I do take this opportunity to congratulate the Government.

But, while doing so, there are certain provisions which the Government are now seeking to bring in, on an examination of which, I feel that those steps are somewhat retrograde from the workers' point of view. I will just point out what, according to me, those provisions are—

(1) In the matter of the definition of a 'factory', certain sections of the establishment which so far were accepted as factories are now sought by the Government to be exempted from the definition. By a ruling of the Andhra High Court it had been decided that hotels and eating places, if they employ a specific number of workers, should be treated as a 'factory'. Now, this benefit which the workers got with respect to those establishments is now sought to be taken away by the hon. Minister. There is this exemption provision whereby the Bill says that hotels and

[Shri C. M. Stephen]

eating places will not be treated as factories I was just now saying that the Minister was reading something else Under the ruling of the Andhra High Court it had been decided that hotels are factories I would like to know from the Government an explanation as to why, after this ruling— this took place a few years ago—the Government thought it absolutely necessary to specifically mention that hotels and eating places will not be factories I mean, after all, there are workers there. They have got certain benefits under the Factories Act, certain protective provisions and the hotels which are now developing are not of the types which were in existence in the olden days They have got cold storages They have got certain machines working there There are fumes and fumigation taking place there There are poisonous substances there in the matter of cooking and all that These are the conditions under which they have got to be protected

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (SHRI RAGHUNATHA REDDY) I hope poison is not used for cooking

SHRI C M STEPHEN At a particular stage these things are there But what I am saying is that the Minister may kindly explain as to why the Government thought it absolutely necessary in the public interest that hotels should no longer be treated as factories

Now, there is another provision which has now been brought in amendment to Section 10 Section 10 speaks about 'Certifying Surgeons' that the Government under Section 10 as it is now, can declare and appoint Surgeons with competency to certify with respect to matters covered by the Bill These Certifying Surgeons have got the authority to appoint other persons also as 'Authorised Certifying Agents' And there is another provision in the existing provision which says that if any person is connected with any factory either as an employee or as a share-holder or is having a financial interest with respect to that factory, he shall not be entitled to be a Certifying Surgeon with respect to the workers in that factory. Now, an amendment is being brought in to say that the Government shall have the power by a notification in the Gazette, to say that in spite of any person being connected with a factory, he can still be a 'Certifying Surgeon with respect to the workers in that factory Do you really believe that the workers who are affected will get a certificate from the surgeon who is financially connected with the factory, in favour of that worker? Here again I am requesting the Government to explain why it is and on the basis of which report the Government found it absolutely necessary that a Certifying Surgeon though he may be a manager of that factory, can still be a 'Certifying Surgeon with respect to that factory to certify whether there is an illness with respect to the workers under him Is he to protect the worker? What exactly are the circumstances under which the Government found it necessary to bring forth this amendment? Then section 64 says about persons occupying confidential positions The section gives power to Government to frame rules regulations, etc which would define who are the persons who would come under the category of confidential persons If they come under the category of confidential persons then none of the provisions of this Act except one or two sections will be relevant to them and will apply to them An extraordinary step is being taken by the Government here An extraordinary power is sought to be conferred on the Chief Inspector of Factories To say that although a person may not be occupying confidential position, yet, by virtue of the application of the definition spelt out by the rules of the Government, A or B or C persons will be treated as persons occupying

confidential position, is not correct. We know the type of persons the Chief Inspector of Factories are made of. Various complaints against the factory inspectorates are there. The complaints are of inefficient functioning, partiality in favour of employers, amenability to corruption and all sorts of bad influence, etc. This is one of the graveman of the charge which any trade union brings against Inspectorate of Factories Here is a law which has come down from the period of the British Government. That law says that the State Government alone will have the power to define who the persons occupying confidential positions are. Thus far the delegating authority is the State. Now you are giving an unbridled authority and unguided authority to an officer here. To say that although as a matter of law a person may not come within the classification of confidential person, yet, nevertheless, the Chief Inspector may declare that a particular person can be treated as a person occupying confidential position is not correct. I want to know whether this delegated power is necessary, whether it is justified and if so under what circumstances How can you say that this extraordinary power over the head of the Government conferred on the Chief Inspector of Factories will not be misused? This is a matter on which I would like to have clarification from the Minister

In Section 64 large numbers of exemptions are given. There are two types of exemptions to which these amendments apply, one, the exempted cases who are sought to be exempted from a larger number of clauses I hope I am being understood. There are a particular class of persons exempted from Section 52. Now this Clause says that Clauses 51, 54, 58 etc. will not apply to them. That is to say, persons exempted already, are now sought to be exempted from a larger number of clauses which were not originally in existence in the Factories Act. Number two, new types of persons are now being brought in to be exempted from the provisions of the Act. I take serious objection to the amendment whereby trucks and lorry services are sought to be exempted and those workers are sought to be exempted. Now the Government has come forward saying that establishments operating trucks and lorries will also come under Section 64 and will be exempted from these respective provisions.

Look at Sec. (j) excluding the workers engaged in the work of loading and unloading of railway wagons from the provisions of Secs. 51, 52, 54, 55 and 56. This is regarding the period of work. That is all right. There are also quite a number of other provisions We know the truck services or lorry services are developing as a very large industrial enterprise employing a large number of workers. The railways were the only area where the exemption is not given, in this period of great socialist motivation, we have decided that in this sector also they must get the benefit of the extension of the refused leave provision under the Factories Act. Why this benign approach to the workers in the Lorry Service is a matter on which I would seek of the Government their explanation.

Now, another thing is that there is Sec 65 which is sought to be amended. Section 65 says that although all these exemptions are there, there are certain limits. The limits will be as prescribed under Sec. 54. That is, the maximum period for which the workers should be allowd the leave is 12 days; the maximum period for which the workers should be allowed in a period of a week must be such and such.

Sec. 65 seeks to raise this limit. If it was 10 hours so far this is ought to be raised to 12 hours; if it was 50 hours, it is now sought to be raised to 60 hours. This is the new benefit that a worker is going to get. Why

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then, is this section sought to be amended in this manner? I do not know this. This is a new provision that is being brought in, a disastrously injurious, damaging and retrograde provision which is injurious to the workers by taking away the benefit which the worker has so far been enjoying and giving the N.T.R. the power to operate such things.

Now, with respect to leave wages, there are certain good things. I am thankful to Government for having brought in the indirect workers. I am happy about this. There is now a new amendment which is sought to be introduced. I am unable to understand the purpose of this. In place of unavailed leave, it is sought to replace it by the words 'leave refused'. I would like to know what purpose this will serve. The purpose may be good. with my capacity of thinking about the leave refused it is beyond my comprehension. What is the motive behind this new amendment? There is one danger I can possibly see. Why should it not be continuous? Suppose to-day I have got some earned leave to my credit. There is a scheme in operation. I ask for leave but the employer refuses me that leave. As it is to-day the unavailed leave can be carried forward to the next year, to the succeeding year. You have now brought about a new clause of 'refused leave'. What do you mean by that? I ask for leave, say, for 10 days and the leave is refused. Is it that the leave refused is carried forward to the next year or is it that in respect of the leave refused, I should still be asking for it again? If I ask for leave, would it be with respect to the same days of leave which was asked for and refused? The whole complication arises because of this. That is what I feel. If it comes to leave refused, that leave should be allowed to be carried forward to the next year. Suppose I do not avail of it in the next year. Is it to be carried forward—is the leave refused allowed to be accumulated until the date of my retirement? What exactly will be the implication of this amendment? This is a matter which passes my comprehension. I would like to get the explanation from the hon. Minister. Let me put it this way.

The employer is bound to grant me the leave—earned leave. When I am asking for it under the provisions of the scheme and if the employer refuses to give me the leave, then I should not be put to the necessity of seeking again and again my chance for the leave. Whatever leave is remaining unavailed, that must be given to me under the present provisions. Why should this operate as a penal provision? This should operate against the cantankerous employers? The employer refuses the leave standing to my credit. He is refusing the leave. The penalty that he has to pay is that I should be allowed my leave being accumulated in my favour, not merely refused leave, but unavailed leave. My argument is this. I go to the employer and ask for leave. He refuses it, although I am entitled to it. I know the employer, the type he is; I know he will be refusing it to me. That being so, I should not have any liability to go to him again with another application, still another application, yet another application. It should rather be that the moment he refuses, I get the right to have it accumulated in my favour and this must continue as in the present provision. By taking it away and creating a new class of leave refused leave, you are taking away this benefit under the law I am now having. You are leaving it completely in favour of the cantankerous employer. I would like to know why this change sought to be made has been thought necessary. This is a matter on which I would ask for a clarification.

Having said this by way of criticism, I should certainly highlight certain provisions which are in favour of the worker. You have expanded the definition of 'worker'. It is a very

good change.—I am sorry there is another matter to which I wanted to refer before this. You have put in a new section, s. 40B suggesting the appointment of Safety Officers. Here I want to emphasise one thing. Today there is provision for Welfare Officers. Government can direct the employer to appoint a Welfare Officer. He is to be appointed by the employer. The employer appoints, the employer pays. To whom he is answerable? To the employer. You now want a Safety Officer to be appointed. Your jurisdiction is only to say to the employer, to direct him, to appoint a Safety Officer. That is, his pay bill may be increased—that is all. The Safety Officer will be his employee. He is answerable to the employer. Disciplinary action will lie with the employer. He will certainly be subject to the direction of the employer. This is what we are experiencing today with respect of Welfare Officers If it is for the protection of workers, why not Government appoint the Welfare Officer and the Safety Officer and ask the employer to pay the bill for that? In that case, appointment will lie with Government and disciplinary jurisdiction will be with Government. We know he who pays the piper calls the tune. He pays the Welfare Officer and the Safety Officer He will call the tune and these fellows will have to dance to it. So if it is for the purpose of protecting the worker, let there be no illusion that by this you are going to further the interests of the worker by an inch. On the other hand, you are giving the employer a sort of approval to say that everything that has been done is all right although it is injurious to the worker which he is experiencing with respect to the Welfare officer.

One more observation and I will be closing. You have brought in a new definition public emergency. I went through it; it is exactly the same as the definition of an 'emergency' as described in the Constitution of India —exactly the same. What exactly are you meaning thereby? Kindly look at the meaning of it. This is a very important matter which I would plead with Government to consider. For what purpose it is put in, I do not know. Under article 358, there is a provision for declaration of emergency under certain conditions—war and other things Exactly the same phraseology you have taken and put it in the Factories Act. Is it that although in this country a declaration of emergency can be made only by the President, your officer can make a declaration that there is a condition of emergency in this country because of the factory? If that is not the purpose, would it not be enough for you to say that when a declaration of emergency is in existence, factories can be exempted? Who is the authority to decide whether there is a condition of emergency? I am putting this question because the phraseology you have adopted is exactly the same as in art. 358, exactly the same. While the President has to determine under the Constitution and decide about a condition of emergency, you are now giving power to your officer to decide that there is a condition of emergency. Are you going to equate the President of India with a factory inspector in this country?

SHRI N. K. P. SALVE (Betul): Mercifully he is not subordinated!

SHRI C. M. STEPHEN: I do not know. I can understand if there is a condition of emergency. My question is: who is to determine it? The condition of emergency has to be determined by the President of India. The wording of the section is such here. It might have been enough if yon say here: if there is declaration of emergency in existence, the exemptions can be allowed. That would have been enough rather than equating the President of India with the factory inspector; it rather stinks in my nostrils. I am complimenting the government for the good amendments that they have brought in and I am criticising them for amendments to

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the extent to which they appear to be retrograde or against the interest of the workers and I seek an explanation from the hon. Minister in respect of them. With these words, I support the motion.

DR. RANEN SEN (Barasat): I must refer to the criticism made by Mr. Stephen. with which I completely agree; in fact his criticism has made my position a little simpler and I will not go into all those points But as he said, there has been some improvement also, a little wider coverage and some more steps which might go to some extent to serve the interest of the workers pertaining to safety in their work.

I am constrained to say that inspite of many safety conferences, many seminars and discussions, the safety conditions in our factories remain unsatisfactory In the National Commission on Labour they considered this matter and they recommended that there should be one inspector for every 150 factories and their recommendations have by and large been accepted by the government. I want to know whether our hon. Minister could tell us whether this particular recommendation had been implemented in our country. I know there are places where there are 300 or even more than that number, factories but only one labour inspector. That means that he is unable to his job even though he may be an honest and hardworking person One inspector for 150 factories is in fact on the lower side: inspite of that this recommendation has not been accepted and implemented

It is known that according to the Factories Act of 1948 the management was enjoined to take certain precautionary steps. I want to know how many cases have been launched against employers or managers for violating the meagre safety rules that were prescribed in the Factories Act. I say meager, because they do not go far enough; even this amending Bill does not go far enough. With industrial expansion, a large number of young persons are entering the factories and wrokshops from the rural areas; they are untrained workers There was a suggestion in the National Labour Commission that such persons who enter hazardous jobs should be given some training about safety measures and about the safety steps that they should take. All these recommendations have been violated. Employers have been running riot and the number of accidents has not fallen appreciably. In M P., for instance, there were 10,000 accidents recorded in the Register of the Labour Department in 1965 It went up to more than 25,000 in 1975. The lives of the workers, particularly those doing nazardous work, have been unsafe and this Bill does not go far enough tt safeguard their lives or protect their limbs.

Now I come to the clauses I agree with the criticism made by Mr. Stephen and I will not dilate upon it. Clause 6(c) says.

> "in sub-section (7) for the words "Every Chief Inspector and Inspector", the words "Every Chief Inspector, Additional Chief Inspector, Joint Chief Inspector, Deputy Chief Inspector, Inspector and every other officer appointed under this section" shall be substitued"

So, it appears that the administration will be made top-heavy with so many officials We know from experience how these inspectors behave. This top-heavy administration will not improve the situation. The main thing is whether the number of inspectors has increased or not for each inspector how many factories are allotted. I have referred to the recommendation of the National Commission on Lobour. I cannot speak obout all inspectors, but there are some who are absolutely untrained and innocent of any knowledge of

safety measures which the employers must take. Is there anything in this Bill to make it incumbent on the State Governments, who will be implementing this, to see that only trained people with good knowledge of the safety measures are appointed as inspectors. I have found factories where the employers should have installed protective glasses for the safety of the workers, but these have not been installed. The factory inspector goes round and does not make any comment about it!

Clause 9 is just a pious declaration. It says:

> "Effective arrangements shall be made in every factory for treatment of wastes and effluents due to the manufacturing process carried on therein, so as to render them innocuous, and for their disposal."

It is a very good wish, but it is known that the two metropolitan cities of Bombay and Calcutta are the worst in this respect. In Bihar in Dhanbad area, the factories are so constructed and run in such a manner that this aspect is the first casualty. The whole atmosphere is polluted, the water system is polluted, so much so that recently an examination of the Calcutta city water supply was found to be heavily polluted. In Bombay a few years ago an enquiry revealed that even the sea water has been polluted because of the waste from the factories. Therefore, it is only a pious wish. What is the machinery through which this particular clause will be enforced in our coutry?

Clause 19 reads:

> "If it appears to the Inspector that any building or part of a building in a factory is in such a state of disrepair as is likely to lead to conditions detrimental to the health and welfare of the workers, he may serve on the occupier or manager or both of the factory an order in writing specifying the measures which in his opinion should be taken and requiring the same to be carried out before such date as is specified in the order."

What will happen if that order is not complied with? That is nit mentioned here. Suppose the Inspector tells a factory manager or proprietor that a particular building is hazardous to the health or safety of the workers, but no remedial action is taken, then what happens? That is not specified here.

Again, the latter portion of clause 36 says:

> "....with a view to removing conditions dangerous to the health of the workers, or to suspend any process, where such process constitutes, in the opinion of the Inspector or the Chief Inspector, as the case may be, imminent danger of poisoning or toxicity."

If it is not complied with what happen? Clause 40 says:

> "Provided that where contravention of any of the provisions of Chapter IV or any rule made thereunder or under section 87 has resulted in an accident causing death or serious bodily injury, the fine shall not be less than one thousand rupees in the case of an accident causing death, and five hundred rupees in the case of an accident causing serious bodily injury."

Suppose a factory owner contravenes this law and the rules and as a result of which a worker dies. Then the fine shall not be less than Rs. 1,000. So, that is the price of a worker's life. A worker's life costs only Rs. 1,000. In the case of serious bodily injury the fine is only Rs. 500. Here "serious bodily injury" according to the Explanation "means an injury which involves, or in all probability will involve, the permanent loss of the use of, or permanent loss injury to, any limb or the permanent loss of, or injury to,

[Dr. Ranen Sen]

sight or hearing, or the fracture of any bone....". That means the man is finished permanently and for that he gets Rs. 500, even though for his injury the employer is totally responsible due to violating all these provisions of the Factories Act, including this amendment.

MR. SPEAKER: He will continue after Lunch.

13 hrs.

The Lok Sabha adjourned for Lunch till Fourteen of the Clock.

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The Lok Sabha reassembled after Lunch at five minutes past Fourteen of the Clock.

[MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER *in the Chair*]

FACTORIES (AMENDMENT) BILL— *contd.*

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Dr. Ranen Sen to continue his speech.

DR. RANEN SEN: I was speaking on Clause 40 of the amending Bill. I have covered that.

Now I come to Clause 41. Here it is said that section 94 of the principal Act shall be renumbered, etc. I do not understand why this change has been made here. Let us see what this change is for. Section 94 of the principal Act reads:

> "If any person who has been convicted of any offence punishable under section 92...."

Section 92 deals with general penalty for offences.

> "....is again guilty of an offence involving a contravention of the same provision, he shall be punishable on a subsequent conviction with imprisonment for a term which may extend to six months or with fine which may extend to one thousand rupees or with both."

The change here may be, instead of "or with fine which may extend to one thousand rupees" it will be "or with fine which shall not be less than two hundred rupees but which may extend to five thousand rupees". I have got two criticisms to make here. There are always loopholes for violation of the provisions of the law. First, it is stated here that there may be imprisonment for a certain period or fine. We know how judiciary behaves. They generally say that the imprisonment is still the rising of the court—'imprisonment' means T.R.C. The punishment they give is very meagre. The explanation that would be given by the Minister would be—I can anticipate that—that now the fine cannot be less than Rs. 200 whereas under the provisions of the original Act it could be even one rupee. I can understand that. But what I say is we could have said 'which will not be less than one thousand rupees'. That could have been very well done. A sum of Rs. 1,000 is not a very big sum. Also instead of 'or' in section 94, he could have said 'and'. It is time that all those employers who with impunity contravene the provisions of the law were taught object lessons. Here I find, somehow or other, the soft attitude continues. Yesterday, in the course of discussion on another Blil, Mr. Somnath Chatterjee had said that, if certain rigidity was observed, then the employer might go to jail and the factory might go into liquidation. Well, there might be ten or twenty such cases. But that becomes an object for the employer's lesson. That is good for the employees in the long run. We should not merely see what is before our nose; we have to look far ahead. Therefore, I do not understand this sort of softness for the employers.

Section 94 is sought to be amended. But the proviso that is there is being retained. For a continuing offence, there should be a deterrent punishment and with fine. Then, I could have understood this point of reduc-

ing the fine to Rs. 20). Otherwise, this is a loophole, and with the help of judiciary, the guilty employers will get out. In section 94 of the principal Act there is a proviso:

"Provided that for the purposes of this section no cognizance shall be taken of any conviction made more than two years before the commission of the offence which is being punished."

This proviso should have been absolutely done away with. Suppose an employer has committed such an offence two years before. Then what happens? He goes scot-free. This proviso should have been completely done away with. Therefore, with this Clause 41—the way section 94 of the principal Act has been renumbered and amended—I am not at all happy; I do not agree with the Minister.

As I have said in the beginning, Mr. Stephen had made certain valid criticisms. I have not referred to them. I completely agree with him. I have made certain other criticisms.

As I said earlier, I cannot oppose this Bill because there has been some improvement here and there. Therefore, I have to support it; opposing the Bill would mean that I reject even whatever good is there. When I was reading the amending Bill, I thought that it would have been better if the Government had referred it to a Joint Select Committee, so that they could have gone into it thoroughly. Instead of doing that, he has brought forward this Bill very hurriedly, all of a sudden. I am very sorry for it. But, on the whole, I have to support the Bill; I have no other go.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: I want to mention the time in relation to this Bill. When we started, we had a balance of 55 minutes. We still have six Members to speak, and I am told that they have important contributions to make. The Minister of Parliamentary Affairs has written to me that one of them, Shri Ram Singh Bhai, may be given 20 minutes and the other Congress Members may be given ten minutes each. I do not think we can do that within the balance of time at our disposal. What is the pleasure of the House? I would like to know that.

THE MINISTER OF WORKS AND HOUSING AND PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI K. RAGHU RAMAIAH): May I suggest that we may so extend the time for this Bill that it will be concluded by 3.30 p.m?

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: That is a good suggestion. We go on with this Bill. We must complete it by 3.30 p.m. Now, I would like to know how long the Minister will take.

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (SHRI RAGHUNATHA REDDY): About 20 minutes.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: I shall call you at about 3.10.

Mr. Ram Singh Bhai.

श्री रामसिंह भाई (इंदौर): उपाध्यक्ष महोदय, यह एक महत्वपूर्ण बिल है। माननीय सदस्य, श्री स्टीफ़न और डा० सैन, ने इस बारे में जो विचार प्रकट किये हैं। उन्होंने जो बातें कहीं हैं समय थोड़ा होने के कारण मैं उन्हें नहीं दोहराऊंगा।

इस देश के कारखानों और मजदूरों के संबंध में यह महत्वपूर्ण बिल सब से पहले अंग्रेजों के समय में 1911 में बना था। उस पूरे को बदल कर 1948 में यह कानून बनाया गया। उसके बाद में इस में कोई चेंज

[श्री रामसिंह भाई]

नहीं हुआ है। जब यह कानून बना था, उस समय परिस्थितियां कुछ और थीं; आज परिस्थितियां बहुत बदल गई हैं। इस लिए अच्छा यह होता कि मंत्री महोदय यह संशोधन करने से पहले इस सारे बिल को सिलेक्ट कमेटी में भेज देते और सिलेक्ट कमेटी के सुझावों के आधार पर यह कानून बनाया जाता।

इस में जो संशोधन किये गये हैं, वे कौन से संशोधन हैं। दस, पंद्रह वर्ष पहले चीफ फैक्टरी इंस्पैक्टर्ज की एक कांफ्रेंस हुई थी। उनके सुझाव रेंगते रेंगते लेबर मिनिस्टर्ज कांफ्रेंस में गये, और आज वर्षों बाद मंत्री महोदय उन को 15 वर्ष बाद सदन में लाये हैं। यह देख कर बहुत दुख होता है। यह कानून सिर्फ कारखानों में होने वाले एक्सिडेंटस से ही संबंधित नहीं है, बल्कि श्रमिकों की सुरक्षा स्वास्थ्य, वर्किंग कन्डीशन्ज, ले आउट, और भोजन, पानी, लैट्रिन, नहाने, धोने छुट्टी, काम के घंटे आदि सुविधाओं की व्यवस्था भी करता है।

आपने यह कानून तो बनाया किन्तु इस कानून के अमल की व्यवस्था करने के लिये सरकार के पास क्या साधन है? केन्द्रीय सरकार कानून बना बना कर राज्य सरकारों पर छोड देती है और राज्यों में यह सब काम फैक्टरी इंस्पैक्टरों पर छोड दिया जाता है। आखिर ये फैक्टरी इंस्पैक्टर किस के हैं? ये श्रमिकों के नहीं फैक्टरी वालों के होते हैं।

मुझे सरकार के आंकडों पर कोई विश्वास नहीं है। मेरे पास में इंडियन लेबर जर्नल की किताबें रखी हुई हैं। उन का यह हाल है कि अगर उन के पास कोई आंकडे नहीं होते हैं, तो वे दो चार महीने पहले छपे हुये आंकडों को फिर छाप देते हैं। यहां मई के आंकडे दोबारा जुलाई में छप रहे हैं। इस स्थिति में सरकार के आंकडों के आधार पर क्या विश्वास कार्यवाही हो सकती है?

प्राईवेट सैक्टर में कहीं जो अंधेर हो ही रहा है, लेकिन पब्लिक सैक्टर में क्या नहीं हो रहा है? 1974 में मैंने मंत्री महोदय को एक पत्र लिखा था कि गवर्नमैंट के एक कारखाने में जो एशिया में अपने ढंग का एक ही है, उसमें फैक्टरीज एक्ट पर अमल नहीं हो रहा है। फैक्टरीज एक्ट के अनुसार पांच घंटे के बाद एक घंटे का, या कम से कम आधे घंटे का, रेस्ट इन्टर्वल होना ही चाहिये। लेकिन वहां लगातार आठ आठ घंटे काम कराया जाता है। कनसल्टेटिव कमेटी में भी इस का जिक्र मैंने किया। मैंने फिनांस मिनिस्टर और प्राइम मिनिस्टर को भी लिखा। प्राइम मिनिस्टर ने इसी

हाउस में ही मुझ से कहा कि लेबर मिनिस्टर को बुलाओ। प्रोहम मिनिस्टर ने आप को लिख कर भी भेजा। लेबर मिनिस्टर मेरे साथ फिनांस के राज्य मंत्री के पास गये और उन से चर्चा की। आज मैं 1976 में बोल रहा हूं। क्या मंत्री महोदय ने उस की कोई खबर ली ?

कानून के अनुसार संडे वर्किन्ग नहीं होनी चाहिए ; उस दिन साप्ताहिक छुट्टी रहनी ही चाहिए। अगर संडे के दिन कारखाने को चलाना है, तो फैक्टरी इंस्पेक्टर से इजाजत लेनी चाहिए। लेकिन कोई इजाजत नहीं ली गई और कारखानेदार ने कारखाने को चलाया। मान्यता-प्राप्त मजदूर संगठन के नेता मजदूरों को ले कर काम करने को फाटक पर खड़े हुए हैं। मेरे जैसे लोगों ने कहा कि कारखाना नहीं चलना चाहिए, क्योंकि आज वीकली हालिडे है और फैक्टरी इंस्पेक्टर से इजाजत नहीं ली गई है। वहां डिपुटी कलेक्टर, डी० एम० पी० और लेबर आफिसर भी खड़े थे। उन्होंने कहा कि कारखाना चलाओ और चला। अगर बाड ही खेत को खा रही हो, तो फिर खेत की रक्षा कैसे होगी? अगर सरकार का श्रम विभाग और सरकार के अधिकारी ही सरकार द्वारा बनाए गए कानून को तोड़ रहे हों, तो हम किस के पास जाएं।

इस कानून में हर जगह अमल की जवाबदारी के लिए "आकुपायर" की बात कही गई है। अगर सजा होगी, आकुपायर यानि संबंधक मैनेजर को होगी। फैक्टरीज एक्ट में मालिक "मैनेजिंग डायरेक्टर या चेयरमैन" क्यों नहीं लिखा जाता है—जिसे सजा हो। मेरी राय है कि 200, 500 या 1,000 रुपए जुर्माने की सजा को हटा दिया जाए; और सिर्फ कड़ी सजा का प्रावधान कर दिया जाए फिर एक दिन ही क्यों न हो। हमारे लिए वही काफी है। हम नहीं चाहते कि वे लोग जुर्माना दो तीन हजार रुपया दें। आज तो कुछ कारखानों में "हथकड़ी मैनेजर" भी रखे हुए हैं। उन को केवल इस लिए पैसा मिलता है कि अगर कोई केस चलाया जाए, तो वह व्यक्ति हथकड़ी पहन कर जेल में चला जाएगा और मालिक बच जाएगा।

पीछे मैं हैवी इलैक्ट्रिकल्स, भिलाई, बोकारो, राउरकेला और रांची वगैरह स्थानों पर गया। मैंने इस में एक महीना बिताया। मैं कारखानों और मजदूरों में गया, मैं ने देखा कि वहां भी कानून का पालन नहीं हो रहा है।

[श्री रामसिंह भाई]

आपने इसमे स्प्रेड-ओवर भी बढा कर रखा है, यानी 12 घटे का स्प्रेड ओवर होगा। एक मजदूर काम करने के लिए जाता है, उसका रेस्ट इन्टर्वल आधे घटे या एक घटे का होना चाहिए और 9 घटे होना चाहिए। आपने 12 घटे रखे हैं। मजदूर एक घंटा पहले अपने घर से चलेगा। क्योकि 12-15 मील दूर से भी मजदूर फैक्टरी मे आते हैं। मजदूर फैक्टरी मे जाएगे। 4 घंटे काम करेंग और कारखानेदार कहेगा कि 4 घटे का आराम करो। वह बेचारे 4 घटे तक वहा बैठे रहेंगे और फिर उनसे कहा जाता है कि 4 घटे काम करो। इसके बराबर कोई अन्याय नही है। पब्लिक सेक्टर की किसी फैक्टरी मे यह काम इस प्रकार नही होता है लेकिन प्राइवेट सेक्टर वाले ऐसा क्यो करते हैं। 12 घंटे का आपका जो स्प्रेड-ओवर है उसका मतलब है कि अगर कारखानेदार तीन शिफ्ट चलाते हैं तो कानून के अनुसार उन्हे आधे घटे की छुट्टी रखनी पडेगी इसलिए बकिा साढे 7 घटे की होगी। 8 घटे का बकिम लेने के लिए होता यह है कि 4 घटे काम ले लिया, 4 घटे के लिए मजदूर घर जाए और फिर आकर 4 घटे काम करे। कहने का मतलब यह है कि 8-8 घटे की 3 शिफ्ट हो गई। यह कानून वहां पर लिया जाता है जहां पर मजदूरों के रहने की पूरी व्यवस्था हो, दूर से आये हुए मजदूरो के लिए हास्टेल्स हो और उसमे मुफ्त खाना-पीना और यातायात दिया जाता हो। किन्तु जो प्राइवेट सेक्टर वाले करना चाहते थे, आपने भी स्प्रेड-ओवर साढे 10 घंटे से 12 घंटे रख दिया है और वे जो 12 घटे काम ले रहे हैं। जोकि कानून मे नही है किन्तु वे काम ले रहे हैं और उसको आप जस्टिफाई करने जा रहे हैं। इसमे स्प्रेड-ओवर साढे 10 घंटे से 12 घटे करके, एम्प्लायर जो गलत काम कर रहे हैं उसको आप सही करने जा रहे हैं। आप फर्स्ट क्लास एम्प्लायर किसका मानते हैं? टाटा को जिस रोज 15 अगस्त को हमारी प्राइम मिनिस्टर लाल किले पर झडा फहरा रही थी सारे देश मे हर्षोल्लास मनाया जा रहा था उसी रोज टाटानगर में घमन भट्टी की गैस के कारण 14 आदमी बेहोश हो गए जिनमे से 4 श्रमिक वही पर मर गए। टाटा जैसी कन्सर्न मे अगर ऐसा होता है तो उसमे बडी वेदना होती है। मैं भी एक मजदूर हू, पढा-लिखा नही हू। अगर पढा-लिखा होता तो यहा भी नही आ पाता। इसलिये मैं मजदूरो की बात कर रहा हू। आपके हैवी केमिकल्स मे क्या हाल है? दूसरे देशो मे हेवी केमिकल्स सिर्फ पहाडों या समुद्र के किनारे होते हैं, बस्तियो मे नहीं होते। लेकिन आपके यहा ऐसी जगहों पर हैं जहा आजू बाजू के झाड जल गए, वहां पर खेती नही हो सकती है। इसके साथ साथ जो लोग वहा पर काम करते हैं उनकी हालत क्या है? उन लोगो की पाचन शक्ति खत्म

हो गई है, जो कुछ खाते हैं वह हजम नहीं होता है। उनके बाल सफेद हो गए हैं जबकि अभी 25 साल के भी नहीं हैं। उनकी ज्ञानेंद्रियां शिथिल हो गई हैं। उनके लिए कान से सुनना और नाक से सांस लेना मुश्किल है। उनके शरीर चिथड़े जैसे हो गए हैं। इसके कारण कितने ही परिवार बिखड़ गए। ज्ञानेंद्रियां शिथिल हो जाने के कारण उनकी पत्नियों ने उनको छोड़ दिया है। ऐसी बात नहीं है कि इसके बचाव के लिए कोई प्रबन्ध नहीं हो सकता। प्रबन्ध हो सकता है। मैं आपको याद दिलाना चाहता हूं आपके चीफ फैक्टरी एडवाइजर, मि० मानकीकर ने आज से 15 साल पहले एक रिपोर्ट दी थी और उसमें सुझाव दिये थे ऐसा काम करने वाले श्रमिकों के काम के घंटे घटाने चाहिए। हमारे मिनिस्टर साहब उस कारखाने के सामने से कभी निकले नहीं हैं। मैं भी वहां गया हूं लेकिन एक सेकेन्ड भी खड़ा नहीं रह सका। इसलिए जो मजदूर वहां काम करते हैं उनके काम करने के घंटे कम होने चाहिए। इसके साथ साथ उनका इलाज भी अच्छा होना रहना चाहिए और दूसरे बचाव के साधन भी उनको देने चाहिए। इसके अलावा उनकी वार्षिक छुट्टियां ज्यादा होनी चाहिए। विदेशों में तो श्रमिकों के लिए सेनिटोरियम तक बने हुए हैं। हिन्दुस्तान में भी कुछ ऐसे कारखाने हैं, मैं बता सकता हूं। आपने देखा नहीं होगा। कुछ तो विदेशों के मुकाबले में भी अच्छे हैं। मैं ऐसे एक कारखाने में गया जहां, कुछ वर्कशाप का काम जिस जगह होता है उसको छोड़कर सारा कारखाना एयरकंडीशन्ड है। इसके अलावा जहां पर जनरल मैनेजर बैठता है वहां टेलीविजन लगा हुआ है यह देखने के लिए कि किस डिपार्टमेन्ट में क्या हो रहा है, कारखाने के कम्पाउन्ड में क्या हो रहा है और बाउंड्री के आजू बाजू में कौन आ जा रहा है। आप भिलाई में, राउरकेला में या दूसरे कारखानों में जायें तो देखेंगे कितने अच्छे कारखाने हैं लेकिन गैस के कारण भिलाई कारखाने में, राउरकेला और बोकारो कारखाने में दम घुटता है। जो पढ़े-लिखे आदमी हैं, बैठकर काम करने वाले हैं उनके लिए तो एयर-कंडीशन लगा है लेकिन जो कोक: ओवन पर काम करता है उसकी क्या हालत है? ऐसा नहीं है कि उसके लिए इन्तजाम नहीं हो सकता। इन्तजाम हो सकता है लेकिन उसकी देख-रेख का कोई इन्तजाम नहीं है क्योंकि आपने अमल राज्य सरकारों पर छोड़ दिया है। जो चीफ फैक्टरी इंस्पैक्टर जाते हैं वह उनके गेस्ट हाउस में जाकर रहते हैं, आनन्द करते हैं। वहां जाकर कारखाने की गाड़ी लेते हैं और अपनी गाड़ी को उसी कारखाने में रिपेयर करने के लिए छोड़ देते हैं। यह मेरा निजी अनुभव है, मैं किसी रिपोर्ट के आधार पर नहीं कह रहा हूं।

आपके यहां सभी सरकारी दफ्तरों में और पब्लिक सेक्टर के कारखानों में साप्ताहिक छुट्टी रहती है। हरएक श्रमिक को सप्ताह में एक छुट्टी मिलनी चाहिए—यह कम्पलसरी है। आपके फैक्टरी ऐक्ट में भी यह है लेकिन इतना भारी काम करने वाले, जो भट्टी के सामने काम करते हैं, जो सी एस टू में काम करते हैं, हेवी केमिकल्स में काम करते हैं उनका हाल क्या है? जब साप्ताहिक छुट्टी आती है तो उसकी कैंसिल करके आप 8, 9, 10, 11 दिन कारखाना चला रहे हैं। उन्हें साप्ताहिक छुट्टी का पैसा भी देना नहीं पड़ता है। हम सभी भारत के नागरिक हैं, हमें समानता का अधिकार है तो जो संवैतनिक साप्ताहिक छुट्टी सभी को मिलती है वह निजी क्षेत्र में भी मिलनी चाहिए। वह मिल जायेगी लेकिन कारखाने के मजदूरों को साप्ताहिक छुट्टियों का पैसा नहीं मिलेगा। आप विचार करें, हम इस देश के रहने वाले हैं लेकिन जो खतरे का काम करते हैं उन्हें महीने में 26 दिन का ही पैसा मिलता है। आप यहां पर कानून

[श्री रामसिंह भाई]

बनाते हैं और वहां पर कारखानेदार उसकी अज्जियां उड़ाते हैं लेकिन उसको कोई देखने वाला नहीं है। मैंने आपको लिखा है कि एक आदमी लगातार तीन तीन शिफ्ट में काम कर रहा है, 8 घंटे से ज्यादा काम वह नहीं कर सकता, मैं फैक्टरी इंस्पेक्टर, लेबर कमिश्नर और कलेक्टर, सभी से कहता हूं लेकिन वे कहते हैं हां, काम हो रहा है पर हम क्या करें। तो फिर हमें कह दीजिए, हम ही उसको ठीक करेंगे। हमने बहुत से बन्द कारखाने चलाए हैं, आपकी मदद या आपके पैसे से नहीं बल्कि मजदूरों के सहयोग से चलाए हैं।

आपने कानून में 20 दिन के ऊपर एक सवैतनिक छुट्टी रखी है, उसमें प्रतिबन्ध लगाया कि 240 दिन की हाजिरी होगी तो ही 20 दिन की हाजिरी के ऊपर एक दिन की सवैतनिक छुट्टी होगी। जब आदमी गैस में काम करेगा, इन खराब काम की हालात में काम करेगा, सी० एम० 2 में काम करेगा, हैवी कैमिकल्स में काम करेगा, तो वह सप्ताह में तीन दिन भी काम नहीं कर सकेगा, उसका सारा वेतन डाक्टरों के पास ही चला जायगा इसलिए मैं आप से निवेदन करना चाहता हूं कि 240 दिन की हाजरी का प्रतिबन्ध खत्म कीजिए और जो आदमी 15 दिन काम करता है उसका एक दिन का सवेतन अवकाश जरूर दीजिए। बहुत से उद्योगपति दे रहे हैं, जैसे बम्बई में 15 दिन के बाद एक दिन का सवेतन अवकाश दिया जाता है, इसी तरह से अहमदाबाद में दिया जाता है, मेरे क्षेत्र नागदा में भी इसी तरह से 15 दिन पर अवकाश दिया जाता है। इसलिए ऐसा प्रावधान सब के लिए होना चाहिए।

इस में आप ने एक प्रावधान यह किया है कि जिन कारखानों में एक्सीडेंट का भय है वहां के काम करने वालों को चुस्त कपड़े की यूनीफार्म दी जायगी। क्या यूनीफार्म देंगे—सलवार देंगे या चड्डी देंगे—कुछ साफ नहीं है। मैं आप से यह निवेदन करना चाहता हूं कि एक्सीडेंट्स को बचाने के लिए सब से पहली बात तो यह है कि जिस श्रमिक का सम्बन्ध मशीन से हो, उसको यूनीफार्म अवश्य दी जाए, इसी तरह से जो क्लर्क, केमीकल में काम करते हैं, जो कोयले-डस्ट में काम करते हैं, ऐसी जगह काम करते हैं जहां गैस का सवाल आता हो—उन सब को भी यूनीफार्म मिलनी चाहिए।

मंत्री जी ने अपने भाषण में कहा है कि हम ने इस बिल में एक संशोधन किया है — जिन कारखानों में 50 महिलायें काम करती हैं, उनके बच्चों की देखभाल के लिये पहले कानून में "क्रेश" का प्रावधान था, अब इसको घटा कर 30 कर दिया गया है, जिन कारखानों में 30 महिलायें काम करती हैं, अब वहां पर भी कारखाने की ओर से "क्रेश" का प्रबन्ध होगा—आप ने ऐसा प्रावधान करके महिलाओं के साथ बड़ा उपकार किया है। लेकिन मेरा यह कहना है कि किसी भी कारखाने में यदि एक महिला भी काम करती हो तो उसके बच्चे की देखभाल का प्रबन्ध कारखाने की ओर से होना ही चाहिए। कारखाने को महिलाओं की आवश्यकता है, इसलिए ऐसी व्यवस्था भी उसे ही करनी चाहिये। मैं चाहता हूं कि आप इसके बारे में फिर से गौर करें।

हमारे देश में एवेज 1000 वर्कर्स घातक एक्सीडेन्ट की संख्या 15 आती है, लेकिन अगर आप विदेशों में देखें तो वहां यह एवेज 0.15 है और यदि मेरे प्रदेश में चले जायें—मध्य प्रदेश में—तो यह एवेज .29 आता है। मैं आप से यह निवेदन करना चाहता हूं कि जो गरीब अपना खून और पसीना कारखाने के लिये बहाता है, कारखाने के लिये अपनी जान देता है—मेहरबानी करके अपने कानूनों का पालन अच्छी तरह से करायें

जिस से उन के साथ बेइन्साफी न हो। कारखानों में जो वर्क्स कमेटी के सदस्य हैं, जिन में मजदूर सदस्य हैं, उन को आप उस फ़ैक्टरी के लिये फ़ैक्टरी इंस्पेक्टर के अधिकार दीजिये ताकि वे मजदूरों के हित में सही काम कर सकें, कानून का ठीक तरह से पालन करवा सकें।

इन शब्दों के साथ मैं इस बिल का समर्थन करता हूं।

सरदार स्वर्णसिंह सोढी (जमशेदपुर): डिप्टी स्पीकर साहब, मैं इस फ़ैक्टरीज अमेण्डमेन्ट बिल का स्वागत करता हूं और कुछ सुझाव मिनिस्टर साहब के सामने रखना चाहता हूं। मुझे उम्मीद है कि वे मेरे सुझावों पर गौर करेंगे।

यह बिल 1948 में बना था, 1 मार्च, 1949 से लागू हुआ। 1954 में फिर इस में कुछ अमेण्डमैन्टस हुई और अब 22 सालों के बाद फिर इस में कुछ अमेण्डमैन्टस आई हैं। इन 22 सालों के दौरान कारखानों में कई तरह की तबदीलियां आईं। बहुत सी जगह कारखाने बदल गये, उन में नई तरह की मशीनें लग गई, नये तरीकों से काम शुरू हुए। इस कानून में आरीजनली 120 सैक्शन्ज हैं और अब जो अमेण्डमेन्टस आई हैं—इन की तादाद भी 45 के करीब है। लेकिन इस के बावजूद भी मैं ऐसा समझता हूं कि इस में कुछ कमियां रह गई हैं। जैसा मेरे कुछ दोस्तों ने कहा कि इस को सीलैक्ट कमेटी को भेज दिया जाय—मैं इस राय से इत्तिफ़ाक नहीं रखता। सिलैक्ट कमेटी में भेजने से दो साल लग जायेंगे। सिलैक्ट कमेटियों का हमारा पुराना अनुभव है—साइमन की सिलैक्ट कमेटी थी, सारा हिन्दुस्तान घूमती रही, दो साल के बाद रिपोर्ट आई। इसलिये सिलैक्ट कमेटी को भेजने का कोई फ़ायदा नहीं होगा, क्योंकि अब आगे लोक सभा के चुनाव होने वाले हैं, जो सिलैक्ट कमेटी बनाई जायगी, वह खत्म हो जायगी, फिर दोबारा इस बिल को लाना पड़ेगा, इस लिये आप इस बिल को फ़ौरन ही यहां पास कर दें और डिले न होने दें।

आप ने सैक्शन 11 में अमेण्डमेन्ट की है—जिस में वहीटवाशिंग और पेन्टिंग का जिक्र किया गया है और इस में कहा गया है कि कम से कम तीन साल में एक दफा जरूर पेन्ट होना चाहिये। मेरा यह कहना है कि कारखाने की मशीनरी और स्ट्रक्चर कम से कम साल में एक दफा जरूर पेंट होना चाहिये, तीन साल की बात गलत है। आप को याद होगा 1971 में रूरकेला में पूरी छत गिर गई थी, जिससे बहुत नुकसान हुआ था। बाद में श्री मोहनकुमार मंगलम साहब ने जैनरल मैनेजर से लेकर फ़ोरमैन तक को अलग कर दिया था। इस लिये मेरा सुझाव है कि कारखाना की सफ़ाई और पेंट का काम हर साल किया जाना चाहिये।

आप ने इस में बहुत सारे इंस्पेक्टर्स का जिक्र किया है—एडीशनल चीफ इंस्पेक्टर होगा, डिप्टी इंस्पेक्टर होगा, सब इंस्पेक्टर होगा—वगैरह वगैरह—इन के बारे मे मुझे कुछ नहीं कहना है, लेकिन अगर ये लोग ठीक से काम करें तो हालत सुधर सकती है। अभी मेरे दोस्त इंस्पैक्टर्स के बारे में शिकायत कर रहे थे—उन की शिकायत बिलकुल वाजिब है—ये लोग जब भी कहीं इंस्पैक्शन करने जाते हैं तो सब से पहले अपने जाती फ़ायदे को अपने सामने रखते हैं, अपने लोगों की फ़ैक्ट्रीज में नौकर कराते हैं, अपने पर्सनल गेन्ज को पहले देखते हैं। आप कानून जरूर बनाइये, लेकिन ये जितने इंस्पैक्टर्स हैं इन पर कड़ी निगाह रखिये कि ये लोग किस तरह से काम करते हैं।

सैक्शन 12 में वैस्ट्स और एफ़्लुएन्ट की डिस्पोजल की बात है। आज क्या हो रहा है—बहुत सी ऐसी मिलें हैं, जैसे पेपर

[सरदार स्वर्णसिंह सांखो]

मिले हैं—उन का एफ्लुएन्ट नदी में जाता है, जिस से नदी का पानी खराब हो जाता है। बिलराज नगर में कागज का कारखाना है उस की सारी गन्दगी नदी में जाती है, उस को साफ करने का कोई इन्तजाम नहीं है। जहां कहीं इन्डस्ट्रीयल काम्प्लैक्स बनते जा रहे हैं, बड़ा बड़ा हल्ला पैदा होती जा रही है—इस के बारे में हमें सोचना चाहिये और कोई इन्तजाम करना चाहिये।

बहुत से कारखानों में अगर कोई रुकावट पैदा हो तो कट-आफ-पावर का इन्तजाम मशीनों के साथ नहीं होता है, मशीनों में प्रापर सेफ्टी का इन्तजाम नहीं होता है। 28 फरवरी, 1975 को टिम्को में—जहां पर बहुत अच्छी मशीनें लगी हुई हैं—एक लड़का ओवरस्टाइम पर काम कर रहा था, उस को मशीन में कोई गड़बड़ी पैदा हुई, अचानक उस का सिर या हाथ शाफ में फस गया, पावर-कट होने की वजह से उस लड़के की डैथ हो गई। इस में कोई शक नहीं कि आप ने बहुत सी छोटी छोटी चीजों को भी इस में मेन्शन किया है, लेकिन फिर भी देखने की जरूरत है। आप ने अभी जो कारखाने लिये हैं—जैसे 'डैथरेट' को लिया, इन में पुरानी मशीनें हैं, इस लिये सेफ्टी के लिये आप को बहुत कुछ करना होगा। हालांकि आजकल जो नई मशीनें आ रही हैं, उन में सेफ्टी का काफी अच्छा इन्तजाम होता है, फिर भी सेफ्टी के बारे में जो एप्लाएन्सेज होते हैं उन की अच्छी तरह से देखभाल होनी चाहिये, आप के यहां जो प्रावधान किया गया है, वह सब कुछ यहां है या नहीं है—यह आप को देखना होगा।

बच्चों के बारे में भी आपने कहा है, कैन्टीन मोहल्लाह करने के बारे में आपने कहा है। आपने यह कहा है कि जहां पर लेडीज वर्कर काम करती हों वहां पर क्रैच को सुविधा बच्चों के लिए देना अनिवार्य होगा। पहले यह संख्या पचास थी। मैं कहूंगा कि लेबर क्यों आप रख रहे हैं दस क्यों नहीं रखते हैं। जहां दस हों वहां आपको इस सुविधा को उपलब्ध करना अनिवार्य कर देना चाहिये। आप इस को देखें और इसको रिव्यू करें।

ओवर टाइम की बात भी आपने इस में लिखी है। ओवर टाइम कोई देता ही नहीं है। छोटी फैक्ट्रियों वाले तो बिल्कुल ही नहीं देते हैं। रजिस्टर आदि भी वे नहीं रखते हैं। छोटे छोटे बच्चों से तो वे मुफ्त में काम करवाते हैं। छोटी छोटी फैक्ट्रियों की हालत बहुत बुरी है। इन्स्पैक्टर जो आपके हैं उनको इस तरफ ज्यादा से ज्यादा ध्यान देना चाहिये।

सेफ्टी बहुत जरूरी है। इसका सब से पहले प्रबन्ध होना चाहिये। पैनेलटी भी आपने पांच सौ से बढ़ा कर एक हजार कर दी है इसको और आपको बढ़ाना चाहिये। यह पैनेलटी आपने 40 क्लाज में बढ़ाई है और सैक्शन 92 को आप एमेंड करना चाहते हैं। कम से कम आपको इसको पांच हजार करना चाहिये।

फैटल एक्सीडेंट्स के बारे में आपने कहा है कि एक महीने में उनकी जांच हो जानी चाहिये। मैं मानता हूं कि पुलिस इन्वैस्टीगेशन भी होगी। लेकिन आपका जल्दी करना चाहिये एक महीना भी क्यों लगना चाहिये। इस पीरियड का आप और कम करें।

श्री मूल चन्द डागा (पाली): मजदूर को मजदूरी दे कर खरीदा नहीं जा सकता है, उसको प्रेम से ही खरीदा जा सकता है दुर्भाग्य की बात हमारे देश के लिए यह है कि हमारे देश में जितनी कारखानों में दुर्घटनाएं होती हैं किसी दूसरे देश में नहीं होती हैं। यहां पर मजदूरों का खोरक बहुत उपेक्षा होता है।

इस कानून के जरिये आपने जो सुधार सुझाए हैं उनका मैं स्वागत करता हूं। नेशनल कमिशन आन लेबर ने जो रिकोमेंडेशन्स दी थीं उनको दिए हुए कितने ही साल बीत गए हैं। उन के आधार पर अगर कानून आप बनाते तो बहुत अच्छा रहता। 1969 में उसकी रिपोर्ट प्रकाशित हुई थी। अब काल हो चुका है। लेकिन उसकी रिपोर्ट को कानून बनाते समय ध्यान में नहीं रखा गया है। उसको इम्प्लीमेंट नहीं किया गया।

आप कानून तो बहुत ज्यादा बनाते चले जा रहे हैं लेकिन उन पर अमल नहीं होता है। कानून तो आप बना देते हैं लेकिन उनको लागू स्टेट गवर्नमेंट्स करती हैं। कानून बनाने के बाद आप अपनी जिम्मेदारी से हट जाते हैं और कह देते हैं कि इन को लागू करने की जिम्मेदारी राज्य सरकारों की है। राज्य सरकारों के जो श्रम विभाग हैं वे इस ओर बहुत उदासीन हैं। उन में हिम्मत नहीं होती है कि पूरी तरह इनको लागू कर सकें। पूंजीवाद अभी भी कई बार उन पर हावी हो जाती है। राजनीतिज्ञों और प्रशासकों पर भी मिल मालिक इसकी वजह से अपना असर डाल देते हैं। उनके कारण मजदूरों का शोषण होता है। कई माननीय सदस्य कह रहे थे कि कानून तो आप बहुत अच्छे बना देते हैं लेकिन उनकी अनुपालना अगर न हो तो उनका कोई फायदा नहीं होता है। मजदूर को भी उठना होगा और अत्याचारों के खिलाफ लड़ना होगा। जब तक वह अपने अधिकारों के लिए लड़ेगा नहीं, उसको अधिकार प्राप्त नहीं होंगे।

आपने कहा है कि सेफ्टी अफसर मिल मालिक रखें। नई क्लाज 40बी में आपने यह कहा है:

"the occupier shall, if so required by the State Government in the official gazette, employ such number of Safety Officers as may be specified in that notification."

लेबर वैलफेयर आफिसर अगर मिल मालिक मुकर्रर करेंगे तो वे किस के इंटरेस्ट्स को वाच करेंगे। वे उद्योग के हितों का ध्यान रखेंगे। मजदूरों के हितों को कौन वाच करेगा? अब विधान में खर्च करने की ताकत नहीं है। अब मजदूर बेचारा क्या करे?

क्लाज 41 आप देखें:

Clause 41 says:

"In the opening paragraph, for the words 'which may extend to one thousand rupees', the words 'which shall not be less than two hundred rupees but which may extend to five thousand rupees' shall be substituted,"

अच्छा आपने एक हजार से पांच हजार कर दी है। लेकिन रिकोमेंडेशन क्या थी

"The CCIF has brought to our notice the fact that the current penal provisions are adequate only for formal offences relating to maintenance of register and records and submission of notices. Offences relating to safeguarding of machinery or other matters which may result in accidents and occupational diseases should attract more rigorous sanctions"

अब स्ट्रोरस करने के लिए आपने क्या किया है? आपने पांच हजार तक कर दिया है। आपने किसी मिल मालिक को जेल में नहीं डाला है। मैं समझता हूं कि आपको कम्पलसरी इम्प्रिजनमेंट का प्रावधान करना चाहिए था। दुख है कि जो बुद्धिजीवी होते हैं वे अपनी सेफ्टी सोच लेते हैं। पार्लियामेंट के पास कहीं सन्धमी न हो, हवा पानी का ठीक इन्तजाम हो यह सब कुछ हो जाता है। लेकिन जो उत्पादन करने वाला होता है उसकी तरफ ध्यान नहीं दिया जाता है। जो केवल बोलता है, भाषण दे लेता है उसकी

[श्री मूल चन्द डागा]

तो ज्यादा सुविधाएं मिल जाती हैं, लेकिन जो निर्माता है देश का, उसकी तरफ ध्यान नहीं दिया जाता है। मजदूर के साथ खिलवाड़ नहीं होना चाहिये। फिर

> Why should it be 1,000? Why should it be applicable only to 1,000 workers? In 40(b) you say "wherein one thousand or more workers are ordinarily employed".

1000 क्यों? मैं समझता हूं कि मजदूर के हितों को रखा का अभी भी ध्यान नहीं रखा गया है। बुद्धिजीवी तनख्वाह तो तीन तीन हजार महीना ले लेते हैं लेकिन मजदूर जहां काम करता है वहां गन्दगी हो गन्दगी रहती है, उस तक को साफ करवाने की व्यवस्था नहीं की जाती है। कानून में प्रावधान होने के बाद भी उसको लागू नहीं किया जाता है।

मिल मालिक लोग मजदूरों का आज भी शोषण करते हैं। मशीनें अच्छी नहीं होती हैं। सैफ्टी का प्रबन्ध नहीं होता है। मजदूर लोग अपनी जिन्दगी को खतरे में डाल कर उत्पादन करके देते हैं। लेकिन उनकी कोई परवाह नहीं की जाती है।

श्रम मंत्री बहुत से कानून लाये हैं, इन्होंने बहुत से कानून लेबर के फायदे के लिए पास करवाए हैं। जल्दी जल्दी लाए हैं, अच्छे लाए हैं। लेकिन उनकी अनुपालना कौन करेगा? बीड़ी वर्कर्ज के लिए वह लाए हैं, रिट्रेंचमेंट, लेबर आफ आदि के बारे में लाए हैं। अब फैक्ट्री एक्ट में तरमीम के बारे में लाए हैं। इस सब को मैं मानता हूं। लेकिन उनकी अनुपालना हो इसका भी आपको ध्यान रखना चाहिये। सेफ्टी वर्कर्ज और सेफ्टी एक्सिक्यूटिव की ट्रेनिंग की तरफ भी ध्यान देना चाहिये, तभी फायदा हो सकता है।

श्री अमरनाथ विद्यालंकार (चंडीगढ़) उपाध्यक्ष महोदय, मैं इस बिल का समर्थन करता हूं, लेकिन मैं स्वीकार करता हूं कि फैक्टरीज ऐक्ट में तरमीम करने के बारे में हमारी जो आशायें थीं, यह बिल उनसे बहुत कम पड़ता है। मैं यह भी अनुभव करता हूं कि इस शक्ल में इस बिल के पास हो जाने के बाद फैक्टरीज ऐक्ट जो शक्ल अख्तियार करेगा, वह एक समाजवादी राष्ट्र के अनुरूप नहीं होगी।

अभी तक हमारा फैक्टरीज ऐक्ट और वर्कर्ज की सेफ्टी के लिए हमारे मेजर्ज न सिर्फ समाजवादी देशों, बल्कि अमरीका और इंगलैंड आदि दूसरे देशों, के मुकाबले में भी बहुत पीछे हैं। पूंजीवादी देशों में भी ऐसे कानूनों का पालन पूरी पाबन्दी के साथ किया जाता है। सेफ्टी मेजर्ज और मजदूरों की सुविधाओं के सबंध में उन देशों की छोटी या बड़ी फैक्टरियों की स्थिति यहां से अच्छी है। कहा जाता है कि गरीब देश होने के कारण हम उतनी सुविधायें नहीं दे सकते हैं। लेकिन स्थिति यह है कि अत्यन्त आवश्यक सुविधायें भी हम नहीं देते हैं। इसमें एक तो कानून का दोष है, और दूसरे, इम्प्लीमेंटेशन में कमी का दोष है। मैं आशा करता हूं कि मंत्री महोदय इस विषय में फिर विचार करेंगे और फैक्टरीज ऐक्ट में एक कम्प्रीहेंसिव तरमीम लायेंगे, ताकि एक समाजवादी राष्ट्र में फैक्टरियों और उन में काम करने वाले वर्कर्ज की जो स्थिति होनी चाहिए, वह स्थिति हम अपने देश में लाने में सफल हो सकें।

जैसा कि मैं ने कल भी एक दूसरे बिल पर बोलते हुए कहा था, इम्प्लीमेंटेशन न होने की वजह यह है कि हमारा इंस्पैक्ट्रेट का ढांचा बहुत ही कमजोर है। हमारे इंस्पैक्टर फैक्टरियों में जाते हैं,

मैनेजरों से मिलते हैं और इधर उधर की बात कर के चले जाते हैं । ऐसे कम ही फैक्टरी इंस्पैक्टर होंगे, जिन के बच्चे या रिश्तेदार फैक्टरियों में मुलाजिम न हों । मालिक उन लोगों को किसी न किसी तरह से ओबलाइज करके, उन पर एहसान करके, अपनी तमाम जिम्मेदारियों से बच जाते हैं । इस लिए यह जरूरी है कि इंस्पेक्टरों के ढांचे को ठीक किया जाये ।

मेरा सुझाव है कि हर एक फैक्टरी में वहां की यूनियन और मालिक की एक जायंट कमेटी होनी चाहिए, जो यह देखे कि क्या फैक्टरीज ऐक्ट और दूसरे मजदूर कानूनों की पाबंदी की जा रही है या नहीं। हाल ही में वर्क्स कमेटियां बनाई गई हैं, लेकिन उन को कोई अधिकार नहीं दिया गया है। उन की हैसियत सिर्फ एडवाइजरी कमेटी की सी है, इसलिए उन से कोई फायदा नहीं है। जायट कमेटी को यह अधिकार होना चाहिए कि वह बता सके कि फैक्टरी में फला कमी या दोष है और उसको प्रासीक्यूशन करने की सिफारिश करने का भी अधिकार होना चाहिए । मैनेजमेंट में मजदूरों का पार्टिसिपेशन होना चाहिए । यह काफी नहीं है कि मजदूरों के किसी नुमायंदे को डायरेक्टर बना दिया जाये । हर एक फैक्टरी में मजदूरों को यह अधिकार देना चाहिए कि जहां कानून की पाबंदी नहीं हो रही है, वे उस के संबंध में कुछ ऐक्शन ले सकें, या सुझाव दे सकें । ऐसे सेफगार्ड रखने चाहिए, जिससे मालिक को महसूस हो कि अगर वह कानून की पाबंदी नहीं करेगा, तो मजदूर माफ नहीं करेंगे भले ही इंस्पेक्टर माफ करता हो। मैं समझता हूं कि इस कानून का इम्प्लीमेंटेशन बगैर मजदूरों की मदद के और बगैर उनको अधिकार दिये नहीं किया जा सकेगा ।

मैं श्री राजसिंह भाई के इस एमेंडमेंट से सहमत हूं कि इस बिल में "एक्चुअल पावर" के साथ-साथ ओनर, चेयरमैन या मैनेजिंग डायरेक्टर को भी लपेट में लाया जाये । फैक्टरियों में ऐसे मैनेजर रखे जाते हैं, जो कानून की सख्ती को झेलें, और इस तरह ओनर या मैनेजिंग डायरेक्टर वगैरह जिम्मेदार आदमी बच जाते हैं। उन को भी बीच में लाना चाहिए और उन पर भी जिम्मेदारी डालनी चाहिए। बड़े आदमियों को पकड़ना चाहिए, छोटे आदमियों को नहीं पकडना चाहिए।

सजा में काफी कमी और नर्मी कर दी गई है । मजदूर यह आशा करते हैं कि अगर सरकार कानून का पूरा पालन कराना चाहती है, तो उस को इतना सख्त बनाया जाये कि उसकी खिलाफवर्जी करने वाला बच न सके ।

ओवर-टाइम के लिए 750 रुपये की लिमिट कम है । वर्कर्ज और कारीगरों की आमदनी काफी बढ गई है । इसलिए 1,000 रुपये पाने वालों को इस में शामिल करना चाहिए ।

छुट्टी के बारे में मेरे दोस्तों ने जो कुछ कहा है, मैं उससे सहमत हूं । जितने लोग कारखाने में काम करते हैं, उनको यूनिफार्म मिलनी चाहिए । वे लोग अपने कपडों में जाते हैं और उन को गन्दा करते हैं । उन सब के लिए नये कपडे लेना सभव नहीं होता है। इस लिए कारखाने में हर एक काम करने वाले को उस टाइप की यूनिफार्म देनी चाहिए, जिस टाइप का उसका काम है ।

इस बात को भी एनफोर्स करना चाहिए कि मशीनरी बनाने वाले लोग भी उसके डिजाइन में सेफ्टी का पूरा ध्यान

[श्री अमर नाथ विद्यालंकार]

रखें। कई बार मशीनरी के डिजाइन ऐसे बनते हैं, जिनसे खतरा रहता है। इस लिए एक कानून के द्वारा यह निश्चित कर दिया जाये कि मशीनरी के डिजाइन ऐसे होने चाहिए जिन से सुरक्षा की पूरी तरह से पाबंदी की जा सके।

श्री हरी सिंह (खुर्जा): उपाध्यक्ष महोदय, श्रम मंत्री पिछले काफी समय से यह प्रयत्न करते आ रहे हैं कि देश के श्रमिकों को लाभ पहुचे, उन का वैटरमेंट हो और उनके लिए जो कल्याणकारी योजनायें लागू की जा रही हैं, उनका सफलतापूर्वक कार्यान्वयन हो। उन्होंने लेबर लाज में बहुत महत्वपूर्ण परिवर्तन किये हैं। उसी शृंखला में यह मौजूदा बिल है, जिस पर इस समय चर्चा हो रही है।

इस कानून के द्वारा कई क्रान्तिकारी परिवर्तन लाये गये हैं। उदाहरण के लिए अभी तक अगर 50 स्त्रिया किसी फैक्टरी में काम करती थी, तो उनके लिए क्रैश का इन्तजाम किया जाता था। अब उन्होंने संख्या घटा कर 30 कर दी है, यह अच्छा लक्षण है और जैसा अभी कुछ सदस्यों ने कहा—इस संख्या को और ज्यादा घटाया जा सकता है। मैं आशा करता हू—श्रम मंत्री जी इस ओर ध्यान देंगे।

15 hrs.

जो फैटल ऐक्सीडेंट्स हो जाते हैं—उनमें बहुत समय तक जांच पड़ताल और एन्क्वायरी होती रहती है। अब मंत्री महोदय ने इसके लिये एक टाइम लिमिट रख दी है—यह भी एक शुभ लक्षण है। इसके साथ साथ अब इन्स्पेक्टर्स को आथोराइज कर दिया गया है कि जहां पर मजदूर काम करते है उस बिल्डिंग की यदि हालत खराब हो तो वे वहां काम रुकवा सकते है और उसकी मरम्मत करवा सकते हैं। यदि किसी कारखाने में एक हजार से ऊपर मजदूर काम करते हैं तो वहां पर सेफ्टी अफिसर भी रखा जायेगा। बहुत सी ऐसी शिकायतें यहां पर की गई है कि इन्स्पेक्टर्स परवाह नहीं करते हैं, लेकिन इस बिल में ऐसा प्रोवीजन रखा गया है कि यदि इन्स्पेक्टर्स ने मजदूरों के साथ इन्साफ नहीं किया है तो वे स्टेट के पास अपील कर सकते हैं। ये सारे प्रावधान प्रगति के द्योतक हैं और इनसे देश के मजदूरों का भला होगा।

समय बहुत कम है, समझ में नहीं आ रहा है कि मैं क्या कहू और क्या न कहू। मैं एक ही बात कहना चाहता हू कि—अगर आप दिल्ली पर नजर डालें तो आपको बहुत सारी फैक्टरीज ऐसी नजर आयेंगी जिनका अभी तक रजिस्ट्रेशन नहीं हो पाया है। वे अपने यहां मजदूरों से नाजायज तौर से काम लेते हैं, न उनको छुट्टी मिलती है और न बोनस। जो सुविधायें मजदूरों को कानून के अनुसार दी जानी चाहिये, वे भी उनको नहीं मिलती हैं। आज जितनी फैक्टरीज हैं—उनमें हमारे शेड्यूल्ड कास्ट्स और शेड्यूल्ड ट्राइब्स के लोगों के लिये नौकरियों में जो कोटा रखा गया है, उसका पालन भी नहीं किया जा रहा है। मैं मंत्री महोदय का ध्यान इस ओर खास तौर से आकर्षित करना चाहता हू कि हिन्दुस्तान में जितने कल-कारखाने चल रहे है उनमें स्विल्ड और अनस्किल्ड लोगों में शेड्यूल्ड कास्ट्स और शेड्यूल्ड ट्राइब्स के लिये जितना कोटा है और उस कोटे को क्यों पूरा नहीं किया जा रहा है। मैं मंत्री महोदय से अपेक्षा करता हू कि हमारा जितना कोटा अधूरा पड़ा हुआ है, उसको पूरा करायेंगे।

आज सरकार की नीति के जरिये देश के जो पिछड़े हुये इलाके हैं उनमें फैक्टरीज लगाने के लिये बहुत से प्रलोभन दिये जा रहे हैं, सरकार तरह तरह की सुविधायें दे रही है और मुझे खुशी है कि लोग उन इलाकों में

जाकर फैक्टरीज लगी रहे हैं, लेकिन एक अफसोस है—उन कारखानों में वहां के रहने वालों को नौकरी नहीं दी जाती है । वहां के अफसरान अपने-अपने एरियाज से आदमियों को लाकर नौकरी में भर लेते हैं । मैं चाहता हूं कि मंत्री महोदय ऐसी व्यवस्था करें कि जिस इलाके में फैक्टरी लगी है, उस इलाके के आदमियों को ही वहां नौकरी मिले ।

अन्त में मैं यही निवेदन करना चाहता हूं कि आज मजदूरों की जो हालत है उसमें सुधार की बहुत जरूरत है, इस तरफ सरकार का ध्यान जाना चाहिये । इन अल्फाज के साथ मैं इस बिल का स्वागत करता हूं ।

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Mr. Chapalendu Battacharyyia—only five minutes.

SHRI CHAPALENDU BHATTACHARYYIA (Giridih): So, I am the residuary legatee.

Sir, I welcome the Bill. The Labour Minister has many things to his credit. His intentions are good. He wants to give the labour a good deal. But my approach to the Bill to amend the Factory Act by the Minister of Labour is: though his intentions are good, he wants to give the labour a good deal and a fair deal, but somehow some of the provisions may prove counter-productive. My submission is very simple. I would like that we have Factories Act with minimum but with large rule-making powers so that the entire wide spectrum of the factories in the country may be covered and to each factory the rules can be tailored according to particular situation or requirements of the units. If I may illustrate, the safety provisions required to govern a blast furnace or a steel melting shop or a nine metre high coke oven battery need not be the same as for a 4.5 metre coke oven battery or a bell-metal factory where no power whatsoever is used. The approach should have been different than what we have. I welcome that in section 23 for the words '50 women workers' '30 women workers' shall be substituted. The task of managaing human nature must never be confused with the task of transmuting it. If you had made the number still lower, the women would have found themselves out of work. I know the position in the coal-mines for which I have tabled a question and probably the letter will be reaching him shortly.

As regards uniforms I urge it particularly for women workers as a measure of safety.

But, Sir, the spread over of 12 hours, I think, is a retrograde step. In the interest of increasing productivity we may think of complementary shifts as are being thought of in coal mines. This matter should have been looked into in depth.

I would have welcomed that in the matter of 'occupational diseases' the Bill should have included neurosis as an occupational hazard through speeding up of machines. There have been large cases of growth of neuresis and split personalities. In fact what Charlie Chaplin portrayed in Modern times in 1937 is now catching up with us in the industrial establishments. So, that should have been included.

The Employees' State Insurance Corporation, as a matter of policy, should have done regular periodical checkup of these factory workers regarding their general health. There are cases about the incentives in which we found that some of the workers had literaly worked themselves to death. In copper mines in Mosabani the footage bonus depending upon the footage of drilling induced the workers to work hard and bring about silicosis and T.B. to themselves. In many factories some of the workers are working at 105 to 115 per cent of the installed capacity depending upon incentives. Although we must go in

Shri Chapalendu Bhattacharyya]

for higher productivity as a desideratum of national policy, crude intensification of labour and workload should not be permitted, because it will lead to higher stress and strain and higher incidence of disease and ill health. The Factories Acts should have provided for a sharing of the fruits of higher productivity.

The appointment of Safety Officers —the repetition of Parkinson's Law— will not make the factories safer. The safety has to be sought in the workers' day to day active participation in management and the continued dialogue between the management and the workers at shop floor level alone will make the factories a safer place to work in

With these words I welcome the Bill and I support it.

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (SHRI RAGHUNATHA REDDY). Sir, I am extremely thankful to all the hon. Members who had participated in this debate expressing appreciation to some of the provisions and also giving their views.

with regard to their criticisms about some of the provisions of the Bill before the House, while I do not want to take much time of the House in dealing elaborately with all the points that had been made by the hon. Members, I would seek their indulgence and I may point out with regard to the arguments advanced by Shri Stephen for the purpose of comparing the developing and undeveloped countries with all the developed countries and also I may satisfy my friend, Shri Samar Mukherjee by stating that the average investment of capital per worker in 26 similar undertakings or industries in India and the U S.A. while India's per capita investment on a worker is 2,924 in U S.A it is about 12,979.

That is why we have to go through a difficult process and for that hard work is necessary. Industrial development cannot take place without some sacrifices too.

As far as the accident rate is concerned, it is quite gratifying to note that in Steel Industry, especially, it has come down for one million man power in 1964, it is 30.5, in 1967 it is 12.45, in 1970 it is 8.5, 1973 it is 6.58 and in 1974 it is 6 18. I do not want to burden you and the House with further details about this.

Most of the criticism that had been offered and agreed to by the Members arise out of the speech of my hon. friend Shri Stephen While I am thankful for the elaborate speech that has been made by Shri Ramji Bhai and other friends, I can assure them that I have noted down the points and when a situation arises, those points would be attended to. Even though they cannot be sanctified into the law by way of inspection, I may assure the the House and the hon. Members here that their intentions would be carried out to the best of my ability.

Shri Stephen mentioned about the public emergency. As you see, the existing provisions of law, they only deal with the public emergency which the State can declare in order to provide the necessary guidance to the State. In any conditions, the Public emergency can be declared for the purpose of granting exemption from the provisions of this Act. Certain guidelines had been given by way of a proviso Otherwise, the State itself can declared this It is not the Chief Inspector or any other officer who can declare the public emergency. The public emergency is already there in the provisions of the existing Act. There is nothing new that I have added In order to give a proper connotation for this expression 'Public Emergency', I have to provide some explanation for it. That is why an explanation has been added and the explanation has not given any greater power than what had already been there

Another point has been raised by Shri Stephen. That is about Sec. 32 of the Act relating to Clause 32 of the amending Bill relating to Sec. 79 of the Principal Act. The first Proviso to sub-section 5 of Sec. 79 limits the carry-over of the period of unavailed leave to 30 days for the workers and 40 days for the others. The Second provio relates to the cases where the worker applies for leave and who has been refused. So, I feel that the second proviso to the principal Act is slightly anomalous. The workers have not availed of the leave because it was refused. The fact is that he has applied for the leave. Hence, to make the matter straight and to remove the anomaly, the word 'unavailed' has been substituted by the word 'refused'. There is no limit to the caryover of such leave. It does not therefore come in any way against the interests of the worker. In order to correct the mistake and make it clear the language of the principal Act had been changed. My hon. friend has also referred to the other aspects and it is common knowledge that the carryover as such is not commensurate with the task that they perform. Shri Stephen has referred to the appointment of certifying surgeons and allowing certain categories also to come within this Act. I have said that the available number is very small. Considerable difficulty is being experienced all over the country in the matter of examining the persons engaged in the dangerous and hazardous places. There are a number of medical officers attached to the Central and State Governments whose services can easily be utilised for the purpose. With this end in view this exemption has been inserted and I have no hesitation to assure the House that every care would be taken to request the State Government to apply the principle in the interest of the employee or the workers of the Factories Therefore, with all the emphasis at my command, the State Governments would be requested to apply this principle especially in the private sectors There cannot be any possibility of defeating the very purpose of the legislation that has been passed or is sought to be passed just now.

Another interesting point that had been raised by Shri Stephen is with regard to the amendments to original sec. 65. If we read only the amendments there is likely to be, if not considerable, at least some, misunderstanding. The amendments proposed to sec. 65 will have to be read in conjunction with sec. 51 of the principal Act, sec. 54 of the principal Act and also sec. 64 so that the the intention of the amendments sought to be made to sec. 65 can be fully appreciated. Under sec. 51, there is no change, there is no amendment sought—48 hours a week remains unchanged. Under sec. 54, the 9-hour limit is also unchanged. Under 64, we had contemplated 10 hours and under 65, we increase it to 12 hours. The purpose of this is this, with the development of modern technology and technological processes, specially in the chemical industry, it has been found that the chemical technological processes are continuous processes which cannot be stopped. So we thought that in some emergency when certain additional persons qualified for doing that particular job are not immediately available for reasons beyond our control, in such cases, the persons who are already there, who are qualified but have nevertheless already done their duty, should be requested to work. In such cases, some exemption will have to be given in order to see that the continuity of the technological processes is not interrupted so that there is no hindrance to production. There is no other intention behind this except to satisfy the needs of modern technological development and technological processes.

Since we have not amended sec. 41 or sec. 51, there is no harm caused. Whatever extra time is put in as a result of the amendment sought to be made, would be treated as overtime and they will be amply rewarded.

[Shri Raghunatha Reddy]

But it must be admitted that a continuous technological process cannot be stopped and in such cases the services of qualified persons would be necessary.

With this, I think I have answered all the points made by Shri Stephen and other friends who had agreed with his criticism.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: The question is:

"That the Bill further to amend the Factories Act, 1948, as passed by Rajya Sabha, be taken into consideration".

The motion was adopted.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: We now take up clause by clause consideration. I see there is only one hon. member who has given notice of a very large number of amendments. If he is going to fight every inch of the way, we would not be able to dispose of this business before 3.30. So I would like to ascertain from him whether he is going to move these amendments or not. If he is not, then the matter becomes simple.

श्री राम सिंह भाई : नहीं, मैं पेश तो करना चाहता हूं और यह जानना चाहता हूं कि माननीय मंत्री जी क्या कहते हैं ? जो मेरी भावना है और जो मैंने संशोधन रखे हैं वे गलत हैं या सही हैं और मंत्री जी को उन्हें मानने में कठिनाई कहां है यह तो बतलायें । मैं पेश कर रहा हूं ।

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: The procedure is that you should move each amendment as the clause is taken up. You cannot move all of them at the same time. I am trying to point out that if you are going to fight for every amendment, we will not be able to dispose of this Bill before 3.30 when we are to taken up private Members' business. This is the point I am putting to you. That is why I am ascertaining from you in advance what your intentions are.

श्री राम सिंह भाई : मैं जानना चाहता हूं मैं जो रखूंगा वे मंजूर नहीं होंगे। लेकिन मजदूरों की भावनायें जो हैं वे तो मंत्री जी के सामने आनी चाहिये । मैं मंत्री जी से संघर्ष करना नहीं चाहता हूं ।

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: It is up to you. We take up clause-by-clause consideration. There are no amendments to clause 2.

The question is:

"That clause 2 stand part of the Bill."

The motion was adopted.

Clause 2 was added to the Bill.

Clause 3 was added to the Bill.

Clause 4—(*Amendment of section 6.*)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: We take up clause 4; there is an amendment. Are you moving it:

SHRI RAM SINGH BHAI:—

Page 3. line 27—

after "working" *insert*—

"and transportation of spare parts to be used and other material by trolley", (1)

इस संशोधन के बारे में मेरा निवेदन है कि जिस कारखाने में मशीनें लगी हुई हैं, दोनों तरफ पट्टे हैं वहां पर मशीनों को इस तरह से भरमार कर दिया जाता है कि ट्राली से चीजों के निकलने के लिए जगह ही नहीं छोड़ी जाती है । दो दो और तीन तीन मजदूर सिर पर लाद कर मशीन को लाते हैं । इससे एक्सीडेंट होने का खतरा रहता है । आप इसमें यह रखें कि ट्राली से लाने ले जाने के लिये जगह रखी जानी चाहिये ।

SHRI RAGHUNATHA REDDY: This does not call for an amendment. I shall discuss it with the hon. Member and see if it could be covered under the rules.

SHRI RAM SINGH BHAI: I withdraw my amendment.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Has the hon. Member leave of the House to withdraw his amendment?

Amendment No. 1 was, by leave, withdrawn.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER. If this is going to be your *modus operandi* why not say that? Now let us proceed with business. You have tabled your amendments; the hon. Minister knows them. He has said that he would try his best to provide for them in the rules. Then why move the amendment and go through the motion?

श्री राम सिंह भाई: एक बार मंत्री महोदय यह कह दें कि मैं सब पर विचार करूंगा तो मैं वापिस लेने को तैयार हूं ।

SHRI RAGHUNATHA REDDY: I shall discuss with him and to the extent possible we shall see how it could be provided.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: He says he will not only consider them but he will also discuss them with you. So, I take it that you are not moving your other amendments. So, I will put all the clauses to the House. There are 45 clauses. The question is:

"That clause 4 stand part of the Bill".

The motion was adopted.

Clause 4 was added to the Bill.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: The question is:

"That Clauses 5 to 45, Clause 1, the Enacting Formula and the Title stand part of the Bill."

The motion was adopted.

Clauses 5 to 45, Clause 1, the Enacting Formula and the Title were added to the Bill.

SHRI RAGHUNATHA REDDY: Sir, I beg to move:

"That the Bill be passed."

MR DEPUTY-SPEAKER: The question is:

"That the Bill be passed."

The motion was adopted.

SHRI K. RAGHU RAMAIAH: Only a few more minutes are left. Can we not start non-official business?

MR DEPUTY-SPEAKER: That will be a little irregular. Of course if the House agrees it can be done I do not know We have seven minutes more to go It is not twilight area.

SHRI K RAGHU RAMAIAH: I suggest that we take up non-official business.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Does the House agree to that?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Yes.

SHRI D. K. PANDA (Bhanjanagar): What about Central Sales Tax (Amendment) Bill?

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: We are regularising that because of this position. I must also say that the Minister should have been here to move it.

SHRI K. RAGHU RAMAIAH: I agree one of them should have been here, I am sorry.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: It is a piquant situation. Of course, the House can regularise everything. The situation is we have not reached the time for private members' business to be taken up. There are still five minutes to go Because of some misunderstanding, none of the Minister of the Ministry of Finance is here. Therefore, nobody can move that Bill.

SHRI D. K. PANDA: That should be recorded.

MR DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Not only has it been recorded, but the Minister of Parliamentary Affairs has said that he is sorry and one of them should

[Mr. Deputy-Speaker]

have been here. But for some reason, may be mis-calculation or whatever it is, he is not here. That is why I am putting it to the House.

SHRI RAMAVATAR SHASTRI (Patna): In future such things should not happen.

SHRI K. RAGHU RAMAIAH. I hope in future you will not have any chance to say that.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER. That makes my job very much easier So there is a proposal that we depart from the normal practice. We are a little more forward than backward We are ahead instead of behind Maybe that is the indication of the time, I wish it is so. In view of the situation I have explained the minister has proposed that we might take up the private members' business now Does the House agree to it?

HON. MEMBERS: Yes.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: We shall take up private members' business now. Bills to be introduced

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16.27 hrs.

CONSTITUTION (AMENDMENT) BILL

(Amendment of Seventh Schedule)

डा० कैलास (बम्बई दक्षिण) : मैं प्रस्ताव करता हूं कि भारत के संविधान का और संशोधन करने वाले विधेयक को पुर:स्थापित करने की अनुमति दी जाये ।

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: The question is:

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill further to amend the Constitution of India."

The motion was adopted.

डा० कैलास : मैं विधेयक को पुर:स्थापित करता हूं ।

COCONUT BILL*

SHRI C. K. CHANDRAPPAN (Tellicherry) I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill to provide for the establishment of a Board for the development, promotion and protection of the coconut cultivation and to set up coconut based industries and for these purposes to levy a cess to create a coconut fund and for matters connected therewith.

MR DEPUTY-SPEAKER: The question is

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill to provide for the establishment of a Board for the development, promotion and protection of the coconut cultivation and to set up coconut based industries and for these purposes to levy a cess to create a coconut fund and for matters connected therewith."

The motion was adopted.

SHRI C. K. CHANDRAPPAN: I introduce† the Bill.

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*Published in Gazette of India Extraordinary, Part II, section 2, dated 27-8-76.

†Introduced with the recommendation of the President.

12.29 hrs.

COMPANIES (AMENDMENT) BILL

(Insertion of new sections 224A, 224B and 224C) by Shri Chintamani Panigrahi.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: We take up further consideration of the Bill moved by Shri Chintamani Panigrahi. 1 hour was allotted for this. We have taken 38 minutes. There is a balance of 22 minutes. Shri Daga, who was on his legs, may continue his speech.

श्री भूल चन्द डागा : (पाली) : संसद में कुछ ऐसे भी सदस्य हैं जिनसे संसद् की शोभा बढ़ती है और इज्जत भी सदन की बढ़ती है । मैं श्री पाणिग्रही जी को बधाई देता हूं कि वह एक बहुत ही अच्छा विधेयक सदन में लाये हैं । यह विधेयक 1971 में पेश किया गया था । उसके बाद से कम्पनी कानून में काफी संशोधन हो चुके हैं । संशोधन आ जाने के बाद माननीय चिन्तामणि जी भी यह चाहेंगे कि इस बिल के अन्दर सरकार ने कुछ संशोधन कर लिये हैं इसलिये वह इसको शायद वापस लेने की बात सोचें, मंत्री जी के भाषण के बाद । लेकिन एक बात कहना चाहता हूं कि हिन्दुस्तान के अन्दर हमारी नीति यह है कि देश में कुछ आदमियों के पास दौलत जमा न हो जाय । समाजवादी समाज लाने की जो भावना है उसको ध्यान में रखते हुये आज भी देश में कुछ मोनोपली हाउसेज हैं जिनके पास अपार दौलत है । तमाम टैक्सेज लगाने के बाद भी उनके पास पैसा बढ़ता ही जाता है । यह स्पष्ट करता है कि कहीं न कहीं कमजोरी है । मेरे खयाल में जो पैसा बढ़ता है उसका एक कारण चार्टर्ड एकाउन्टेंट्स हैं यह अंकेटर्स हैं । अगर यह लोग ठीक से अपना कर्तव्य अदा करते तो देश में कम्पनियों के पास इतनी दौलत नहीं होती । वकील लोग भी गुनाहगार हैं, लेकिन उनसे ज्यादा गुनाहगार वह हैं जो वकीलों को बिगाड़ते हैं ।

15.31 hrs.

[SHRI ISHAQUE SAMBHALI *in the Chair*]

सभापति जी, कुछ कम्पनियों के पास बहुत ज्यादा पैसा बढ़ गया है । इसके पक्ष में मैं इकोनामिक टाइम्स से कुछ अंश पढ़ना चाहता हूं ।

"Since the auditors are the only watchdogs of the funds of the investing public and shareholders, and *ipso facto* the companies resources the excessive concern about the practices and precepts appears to be reasonable. The public in general, and investing community in particular, expects a very high standard of propriety-cum-efficiency in audit in the country. The report of the *ad hoc* Committee of the Institute of Chartered Accountants of India admit it. The general trend of the review received by the Committee Indicates that there might be a certain amount of concentration of audit."

मेरे कहने का मतलब यह है कि कुछ लोगों के पास दौलत जमा न हो अगर चार्टर्ड एकाउन्टेन्ट्स अपनी ऐफीशिएंसी और इंटेग्रिटी के आधार पर काम करते । सरकार ने कई जगह इस बात की कोशिश की है कि कुछ लोगों के पास ही पूंजी जमा न हो, क्योंकि पूंजीवाद प्रजातन्त्र पर हावी हो जाता है । और वह इस प्रकार कि जब उनके पास अधिक पूंजी हो जाती है तो वह लोगों को करप्ट कर सकते हैं । इसलिये आपने एम०आर०टी० पी० ऐक्ट लगाया । उसके बाद भी कम्पनियों के पास पैसा बढ़ रहा है और यह चार्टर्ड अकाउन्टेन्ट्स की वजह से ही बढ़ रहा है । इस कंसाल को रोकने के लिये कम्पनी ला में कुछ संशोधन

[श्री मूल चन्द डागा]

किये गये। मैं सेक्शन 224(ए) की तरफ आपका ध्यान दिलाना चाहता हूं :

"In the case of a company in which not less than 25 per cent of the subscribed share capital is held, whether singly or in any combination, by—

(a) a public financial institution or a Government company or Central Government or any State Government, or

(b) any financial or other institution established by any provincial or State Act in which the State Government holds not less than 51 per cent of the subscribed share capital, or

(c) a nationalised bank or an insurance company carrying on general insurance business,

appointment or re-appointment at each annual general meeting of an auditor or auditors shall be made by a special resolution."

और उनका यह कहना है कि इन लोगों को अपाइंट करने का प्रोविजन है उसके अन्दर यह होगा कि :

"Providde that in the case of a firm of auditors 'specified number of companies' shall be construed as specified number of companies per partner of the firm."

तो उनकी डेफीनीशन दी है कि :

"In the case of a person holding appointment as auditor of a number of companies each of which has a paid-up capital of less than Rs. 25 lakhs, twenty such companies;"

तो उसके अन्दर आपने 20 कम्पनीज के लिये कहा है। मेरा सुझाव है कि आज भी कम्पनीज में जो शेयर्स हैं उनके अन्दर क्या हालत हो रही है।

"The over-all payments to audit and other services has shown an increase of 11.8 per cent in 1974-75. Thus, total payments amounted to Rs. 126.7 lakhs in 1974-75 as against Rs. 113.3 lakhs in 1973-74."

यह जो आंकड़े हैं उनसे मालूम होता कि कुछ कम्पनियों के पास ही काम है, जैसे फर्गुसन, इनके पास 51 कम्पनियां हैं। और इनको जो आमदनी हुई थी वह 30 लाख 76 हजार हुई थी। लेकिन 1974-75 में वह आमदनी बढ़ कर 32 लाख 65 हजार हो गई। इस प्रकार उनको 6.1 प्रतिशत का फायदा एक साल में हुआ।

Price, water House & Peat. के पास 26 कम्पनियां हैं। और 1973 में उनको आमदनी हुई 9.36 लाख रुपये जो बढ़कर 1974 में 11 लाख 65 हजार हो गई। यानी 9.8 परसेंट फायदा हुआ। आडिट के मामले में चार्टर्ड अकाउन्टेन्ट् का नाम लेते हैं तो मालूम होता है कि कुछ कम्पनियां ऐसी हैं जिनके पास काम है, शेष के पास नहीं। 14,500 चार्टर्ड अकाउन्टेंट्स हैं जिनमें से 6,000 काम करते हैं और कुछ लोग असिस्टेंट के रूप में रहते हैं। अब सवाल यह उठता है कि यह जो कैसेंट्रेशन आफ वैल्थ कुछ कम्पनीज के पास है इसके लिये क्या किया जाय? मेरा एक सुझाव है कि एक पार्टनर के पास केवल 10 कम्पनीज के केसेज होने चाहियें, इससे ज्यादा नहीं। अगर ज्यादा पार्टनर हो जायें तो 10 के आधार पर उसको बांट दिया जाय।

सभापति महोदय : डागा जी, डिप्टी स्पीकर साहब बतला चुके हैं कि इस बिल के लिये केवल 22 मिनट हैं। इसलिये आप समाप्त करें।

श्री मूल चन्द डागा : यह गलत कहा है; अगर ऐसा उन्होंने कहा है तो आप देख लीजिये रेकार्ड।

सभापति महोदय, :यह बड़ा इम्पार्टेंट बिल है। मैं समझता हूं कि आप भी यह नहीं चाहते कि कुछ लोगों की पूंजी बढ़ती रहे और दूसरे लोगों को काम न मिले।

सेक्शन 619 में कहा गया है :

"The auditor of a Government company shall be appointed or re-appointed by the Central Government on the advice of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India.

[Provided that the limits specified in sub-section (1B) and (1C) of section 224 shall apply in relation to the appointment or re-appointment of an auditor under this sub-section.]"

इसके मुताबिक आडिटर का एप्वायंटमेंट सरकार द्वारा होना चाहिये। लेकिन हम देखते हैं कि सब सरकारी महकमों और पब्लिक सेक्टर की कम्पनियों में वही कम्पनियां बार-बार एपायंट होती हैं। दिल्ली में रहने वाला चार्टर्ड एकाउंटेंट सारे हिन्दुस्तान में घूमता है और हजारों रुपये टी० ए० और डी० ए० के बनाता है। अगर किसी ग्रुप की कोई कम्पनी, या कम्पनी की कोई ब्रांच, मद्रास, उत्तर प्रदेश या पटना में है, तो वहां के चार्टर्ड एकाउन्टेंट को ही उसका काम करना चाहिये। लेकिन कुछ आडिट कम्पनियां ऐसी हैं, जो एक ग्रुप की सब कम्पनियों का काम करती हैं। सेक्शन 619 के अन्तर्गत भी उन कम्पनियों के चार्टर्ड एकाउन्टेंट को लाखों रुपये मिलते हैं। वे हवाई जहाज में सारे हिन्दुस्तान में घूमते हैं। इस तरह जो खर्चा होता है, उसके बारे में श्री खांडेकर ने कहा था :

"The Government was thinking of establishing an independent bureau of Chartered Accountants to scrutinise the accounts of all companies. The balance-sheets of the companies would then show higher profits and, consequently, the quantum of bonus for workers would be increased."

आज लेबर को बोनस क्यों नहीं मिलता है ? इसकी वजह है कि उन चार्टर्ड एकाउन्टेंट्स का आब्जेक्टिव सोशल नहीं है। उनका सम्बन्ध कम्पनी वालों से हो जाता है और इस तरह उनमें आनेस्टी और इंटेग्रिटी नहीं रहती है। इसलिये इस सम्बन्ध में यह परिवर्तन करना चाहिये कि चार्टर्ड एकाउन्टेंट्स जो क्वालिफिकेशन रखते हैं, उनको भी काम मिलना चाहिये, उनको सिर्फ दो कम्पनियों का काम मिलना चाहिये और उन को सिर्फ अपनी अपनी जगह काम करना चाहिये।

SHRI DINESH JOARDAR (Malda): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I congraulate and thank my hon. friend, Shri Chintamani Panigrahi for giving us this opportunity of at least discussing this problem of the auditing firms, that there are only a few auditing firms which are getting all the opportunities of auditing the assets of the nation as well as the public sector companies and private sector companies. Only a few auditing firms have monopolised this auditing business throughout the country and have created an atmosphere where in the matter of actual auditing of profit or loss or fixation of rates for taxation and other purposes, immense difficulties are being created because all these auditing firms audit the balance-sheets of the companies, the private limited companies, the public limited companies, the private sector companies and the public sector companies, in a traditional manner. That has already been discussed in detail by the mover of the Bill. I would like to point out that now not only this evasion of taxes and accumulation of black money and other things is one aspect of this sort of auditing business in our country—that is one outcome of this problem—but the other factor is that the cost structure of any production or manufacture and also fixation of the price and other matters concerning manufacture and production of the manufacturing unit can never be asses-

[Shri Dinesh Joardar]

sed properly either by the government or any civil supplies or distribution organization Now we are talking about minimising the cost of production and how to bring down the prices of essential commodities and other manufactured and produced commodities in our country Unless we get all the factual figures of the manufacturing costs, that is not possible and only by a true and sincere auditing that can come about

We know in our country all the manufacturing concerns in the private sector particularly manipulate their accounts in such a way that always the employees are being deprived in the context of their rising costs They are telling every time that the prices are rising So to keep down the prices the employees should suffer they should forego their increment, their bonus DA and other things! These things are also coming in because the audit firms do not sincerely perform their duties What should they do as Chartered Accountants? What is the obligatory duty of a Chartered Accountant? Is it simply giving the balance sheet with a rubber stamp on it and their signature for the purpose of tax assessment and other purposes? These things have come up now This practice is going on very well throughout the country So, assessment of the actual cost of a unit of production or manufacture of a commodity should also be a duty of the Chartered Accountant—to assess the actual cost of unit of production Also there is a social concept Now the social concept has changed that profit alone is not the consideration for any concern, whether it be manufacturing, production or otherwise This social concept should also be introduced in auditing which a Chartered Accountant has got to discharge

Now not only the costs but how wastes, sometimes wastes of the assets and raw materials and other things, the avoidable wastes can be eliminated from the production and manufacturing losses—that should also be considered and that also should be a responsibility on the part of a Chartered Accountant and to procure and present a clear picture of these things Also there should be a provision that a report on these aspects as have been found by the audit firms or the Chartered Accountants should be sent to the Government This should be sent not only to income tax authorities, direct tax authorities and other officers but this should be sent to State Government authorities Central Government authorities etc, to assess what the actual position of the factory or the manufacturing unit is what are the avoidable wastes how much money is spent by way of transport by way of salaries, by dividends and other things for the proprietors and owners of these manufacturing units They take away a large portion of the value of production and manufactured articles Therefore it is my plea that this Audit Report has to be made available to State and Central Governments That will help them in assessing the price at which a particular article should be sold in the market and what will be the profit which could be there That will be an obligation on the part of the chartered accountant

सभापति महोदय, जैसा कि अभी डिप्टी स्पीकर साहब ने बतलाया था इस बिल के लिए हमारे पास 22 मिनट हैं जो खत्म हो रहे हैं लेकिन मैं समझता हूं कि हाउस की ख्वाहिश है कि इस का टाइम कुछ बढ़ा दिया जाए क्यों कि अभी तीन स्पीकर्स के नाम मेरे पास हैं उस के बाद मिनिस्टर साहब को जवाब देना है। मैं समझता हूं हाउस की मंशा है एक घंटा टाइम इस के लिए बढ़ा दिया जाए। एक घंटा टाइम इस का बढ़ाया जाता है।

श्री भूल चन्द डाभा : उस समय मैंने कहा था तब तो आप ने मुझे रोक दिया था। मैंने आप से कहा था।

सभापति महोदय : मिस्टर डागा, अब आप क्यों टाइम वेस्ट कर रहे हैं ? आप मेहरबानी कर के बैठ जाएं ।

SHRI DINESH JOARDER: What is the condition prevailing in the country? As regards trade, commerce, manufacture, production, everything, everything seems to be a secret affair! Everything is secret; business is secret; commerce is secret; trade is secret; even taxation proceedings are secret; even their profits are secret. Unless this outlook is changed, unless this secrecy part is done away with, no improvement could take place. We can know the real state of affairs only if sincere and true picture is revealed by the chartered accountants. Particulars regarding technical know-how are to be made available to the public at large. These chartered accountants should go into the details of these matters. Those who are engaged in auditing these firms have to have some idea and practical experience how a business can be run, how a trade can be run, how a manufacturing unit can be installed and effectively run and so on.

This huge fleet of chartered accountants and other people get ideas and they can start their own business, trade and commerce and they can flourish. Their number can be increased and many people can get employment opportunities and that should also be part and parcel of the audit business.

Lastly, I would like to mention one-thing regarding the Chartered Accountants Examination and the results. It is now found—I won't mention the names—that in the last few years only a particular class of people are able to pass this examination. Year after year others who have got capabilities, appear in the examinations but they are not able to qualify in it whereas we find that these big business houses send their children and their relations to the examination and they have been able to pass this examination. In the auditing business, they are keeping everything secret. Their accountants only audit the accounts of the audit firms. In the Examination, only the big business people and their relations are getting better opportunities and the results are good. That aspect should also be taken into consideration by the Minister. Lastly, I request that the audit firm itself should not be audited by themselves but by some outsider—the chartered accountant of the other firms. If this is done, then we will get an idea or true picture of the audit firm as to how they are doing their business. I congratulate our hon. friend Mr. Panigrahi who has come forward with his Bill thereby giving me an opportunity to take part in the debate.

SHRI JAGANNATH RAO (Chatrapur): Mr. Chairman, Sir, while I appreciate the intention of the hon. Member in bringing forward this Bill which he did on the 2nd of July, 1971, I am afraid, it is a bit out of date. Much water has flown down the bridge of Yamuna between 1971 and 1974. The problems of the company audit, the difficulties experienced by the junior auditors and the complaints of the audit profession in relation to these companies are before the Government and a comprehensive amending Bill was introduced in this House in 1972 which was referred to the Select Committee of both Houses of Parliament in which I happened to be a Member where elaborate evidence was recorded not only from the Chambers of Commerce and Industry but also from the Chartered Accountants and also others who had the special knowledge of the working of the Companies.

16 hrs.

All these aspects were considered and the Committee came to the conclusion of fixing the number of companies an auditor personally or a firm of auditors could audit at 20. Therefore, the Mover could have withdrawn this

[Shri Jagannath Rao]

Bill and introduced another after the amendments to the Company law came into force.

One of the reasons advanced by the Mover is that the social concept should be introduced into auditing, by which perhaps he means that there should be dispersal of audit work among the thousands of members of the audit profession. I respectfully submit this is not possible. No work can be distributed because some auditors have little work or are starving and some work should be given to them This is not possible. An auditor like a lawyer or a doctor should have a reputation which would enable him to get the work of audit of a company. Naturally companies would select auditors or firms of auditors who have a reputation in their profession. Therefore, it is not possible to introduce the social concept in auditing in fixing the number of companies a firm of auditors should be allowed to audit under the Act.

His second point is that monopoly should be broken The cry against monopoly is common nowadays – there should be no monopoly houses, there should be no monopoly and all that. Where is the question of monopoly? If an auditor has attracted the audit work of a number of companies to himself, how can you say it is a monopoly? When an auditor has no work because he has not earned a reputation in the field, how can there be a complaint that he is not occupied? This happens in every profession. Only a few lawyers get the work Work is concentrated among a few doctors. How can the others in the profession complain? A person who needs the services of a technical man goes to the person who is really eminent, from whom he can get the work done efficiently. He should have confidence in him so that he can employ him.

Then there is the cry for nationalisation of audit. The Mover mentioned it while moving the Bill. How can there be nationalisation of a profession? Have we thought of nationalisation of the legal profession or the medical profession? It is not possible. Can the State maintain a panel of lawyers? The State do appoint lawyers in cases where a client is not able to engage a lawyer. But no Government, no State, can maintain a panel of lawyers, doctors and so on to look to the needy. It is not a workable proposition. Nationalisation may be a good slogan, but it does not work in relation to certain professions in which the success of an individual depends on his own merit.

Another point urged by the Mover was that an auditor should be changed every two or three years. His main complaint is that an auditor or firm of auditors auditing the accounts of a particular company for a number of years may act in collusion with the firm and may not do the auditing faithfully or correctly, that he may be hand in glove with the company and its directors. In such cases where a chartered accountant is found to be guilty of misconduct, there are provisions in the Chartered Accountants Act under which action can be taken against him It takes two to three years for an auditor to understand the working of a company.

All these questions were gone into in the Joint Committee in great detail and then it was found that no limit could be put. Though the number of companies an auditor could audit could be limited, the period during which he should be allowed to audit a company was not found to be capable of limitation as feasible, and that was why it was rejected.

Another objection taken by the Mover was that all the auditors are in the metropolitan areas. Necesarily they should be from the metropolitan areas. They should know the working of companies. How can an auditor residing in a small town whose only business is to audit the accounts of small businessmen for sales-tax pur-

poses or for the purpose of other commercial taxes be entrusted with the work of auditing a company's accounts? It is a complicated affair, it is not possible. It is only in metropolitan cities that the auditors could carry on their profession, they get the experience of wholetime accounts of the companies.

About costing also, I think the company law board can order an enquiry into the cost of production in a company. I think all those provisions have been made after elaborate discussion and some formula was arrived at and section 224 and explanation to section 224(1)(c) were enacted. It also specifies the number of companies that an auditor or audit firm can audit, taking into account the difficulties of various auditors who are briefless and also the fact that audit work was generally concentrated in a few hands and also the desirability of spreading audit work by taking away work from a very few hands and giving it to others. All this was given careful consideration and thought and the number, twenty, was fixed in the Companies Act amendment of 1974. To limit it to five companies I am afraid is not practicable and no audit firm can subsist on audit work with only five companies, of which at least two should be public limited companies. That is what it says. While I appreciate the intention of the hon. Mover, I feel it is not practicable to enforce the provision. Perhaps there would have been different thinking on the subject had he introduced the Bill after the amendment of the company law in 1974, perhaps it would not have come in the form in which it was originally introduced in 1971. Therefore, I feel that this Bill cannot be accepted, it is a retrograde step. Section 224 was amended in 1974 and that section should stand. I am not in favour of this Bill.

SHRI B. V. NAIK (Kanara): I welcome this Bill by Shri Chintamani Panigrahiji. Subsequent changes in the statutes of company law have by and large let the question of audit of companies untouched, with due deference to the select committee which went into those details. The reason why I share particularly the sentiments of Shri Panigrahiji to have a greater amount of control over our chartered accountants and the auditors is this. Audit as it is done today is only vouchering, there are limitations, an auditor cannot go beyond a particular voucher, he cannot go behind a particular transaction, whether there had been dishonest practices, unfair trade practices or personal gratification by company executives or dealings which were not in the interest of the company or society as a whole. It is none of the business of the auditor today. The proof of the pudding is in the eating. One single instance will prove this. The recent drive by the Finance Ministry for unearthing black money yielded a total concealed income of Rs. 1500 crores. A very substantial portion of this belong to the organised sector of our economy, i.e., the corporate sector. If the auditors and chartered accountants in this country had done their job properly by plugging the loopholes and seeing that whatever one takes out of the concern is exactly what is due to him either by way of remuneration, salary, Director's fees, profits, dividends, etc., where did this amount of Rs. 1,500 crores come from? Did not come from the private sector, the tycoons and such other people connected with the private sector like Directors, proprietors, Managers, Managing Directors, etc.? What were our auditors doing? Does this give any good certificate to them for having done their job well?. I wonder what the Companies (Amendment) Bill has been able to do except touch the fringe of the problem. The hard core of the companies administration, the watch dogs of the private sector, have not done their job properly. That is why even today we have generation of black money. Will the Minister kindly look into it? During the last four or five years, may I know how many charter-

[Shri B. V. Naik]

ed accountants have been unchartered or dechartered for the malpractices committed by them. If at all there is some figure, it will be a drop in the ocean.

Shri Chintamani Panigrahi has to be complimented for bringing forward this Bill because much thought has not been given to the vital aspect of the external management of the corporate sector If the minister feels in the present context it is not possible to accept this Bill in toto, he may kindly assure the House that in the most immediate future, government will bring forward an alternative in the form of a regulation of this very vital aspect of our economy, namely, auditors functioning in our mixed economy.

श्री हरी सिंह (खुर्जा) : माननीय सदस्य ने इस विधेयक मे बहुत ही महत्वपूर्ण समस्या की ओर देश का और इस सदन का ध्यान आकर्षित किया है और इसके लिए वह बधाई के पात्र हैं। एक जो आडिटर होता है वह कई सौ कम्पनियों का आडिटर बन सकता है, 2700 कम्पनियों का बन सकता है। देश मे जितनी भी कम्पनिया हैं उनके आडिट का काम कुछ एक आडिटर्ज की कम्पनियो के हाथ मे ही है। उन्होंने एक प्रकार से आडिट करने की मोनोपोली बना ली है। मोनोपोली जिस किसी भी रूप मे हो बडी घातक होती है। जो कम्पनियों के मालिक, प्रबन्धक, मैनेजर होते हैं वे इन आडिटर्ज मे मिल कर करोडो रुपए का गोलमाल करते रहे है। इसका नतीजा यह निकला है कि तरक्की का, उत्पादन का, खुशहाली का फायदा जो सर्वसाधारण को मिलना चाहिए वह नही मिल पाया है। माननीय सदस्य बधाई के पात्र हैं कि उन्होंने इस बिल के द्वारा इन कम्पनियों के राष्ट्रीयकरण की मांग की है। मैं समझता हुं कि इसके अलावा कोई और चारा हमारे पास बच नहीं गया है। अभी माननीय सदस्य कह रहे थे कि देश में काले धन का जो निर्माण हुआ है उस में इन चार्टर्ड एकाउंटेंट्स का बड़ा हाथ रहा है। मैं समझता हुं कि यह जो अभिशाप है इसको जल्दी से जल्दी समाप्त किया जाना चाहिए।

किसी भी समाजवादी और प्रजातंत्रीय देश के लिए मोनोपोली का किसी भी रूप मे बने रहना उचित नही है। मंत्री महोदय अगर इस बिल का स्वीकार नही कर सकते हैं तो मैं प्रार्थना करता हु कि वह अपनी तरफ़ से बिल लाए। देश मे धन का बराबर बटवारा होना चाहिए। देश मे जो उत्पादन हो रहा है उसकी सारी जानकारी सरकार को होनी चाहिए। ये जो कम्पनियों के मालिक हैं, प्रबन्धक है, मैनेजर है खामखाह लखपति और करोड़पति न बन जाए, इसको ध्यान मे रखा जाना चाहिए। यह बिल इस काम मे सहायक सिद्ध हो सकता है, ऐसा मैं मानता हु। माननीय सदस्य को इस बिल को लाने के लिए धन्यवाद देने के साथ साथ मैं सरकार से निवेदन करता हु कि वह इसकी मंशा और इस की स्पिरिट को समझे और अपनी तरफ से चार्टर्ड एकाउंटेंट्स के राष्ट्रीयकरण के लिए एक बिल अगले सेशन मे स्वय लाए।

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI BEDABRATA BARUA). Mr Chairman, I thank Shri Panigrahi and the rest of the members who have spoken in the debate and who have raised many important points on the functioning of the nation's economy and on the vital aspect played by accounting in the nation's economy Within the short time at my disposal, I will try to reply to all the points that were raised

To begin with, I would like to dispel some of the misconceptions that might have arisen. Since it is a matter concerning an important profession in our

country, even at the cost of differing from my dear friends, I would like to put the records straight in regard to certain figures. I might concede that many of the points that have been raised have got some validity and should cause a national debate on the importance of and the improvements required in the standard of accounting in the country as a whole. First of all, I would like to say that whatever figures Shri Panigrahi gave, though they are no doubt published figures they are a few years' behind. It is possible that a very great change might have come over the figures that he has mentioned. I do not think anybody has really gone into the state of affairs today after the amendments were passed. And, as Shri Rao has mentioned, these amendments were passed after a great deal of deliberations in the Joint Committee and representations were heard by members individually and in the Committee. Because it affected an important profession and its employees, Government had to go through an intense sort of discussion with all the persons concerned before coming to certain conclusions, and that too after achieving the maximum amount of unanimity not only in the Committee but also among the auditors of all colours and of all States

So far as concentration is concerned, I would like to put it this way. Suppose there are 100 sugar factories. Even if some of them may not be very big, if one auditor gets only one company there are bound to be a hundred auditors In comparision to 8000 Chartered Accountants, it will look like a very small percentage. I am not trying to be little the importance of the figures. Possibly there remains even today some concentration, although we have not gone into it. There have been big and small auditors, this is a fact of life. But this word "monopoly" I would not like to use in this context because it applies only when a person has control and others cannot come in. That is not the situation here.

The bigger audit firms can have only 400 audits today, if there are 20 partners, because there is a ceiling of 20 on the number of partners in an audit firm. So, however big a firm, it can have only 400 audits at the most, and then there is a sub-ceiling, and that is that out of the 400 audits, not more than 200 will be of companies with Rs. 25 lakhs of paid up capital or more. This conceals a lot more, because there can be big firms like Hindustan Steel Ltd. Of course, Hindustan Steel Ltd., is not going to be audited by one firm, but the point is that this ceiling has been put, and so I would not like to use the word "monopoly" in this context

I would like to dispeal another impression, that the Government is nominating or has nominated Members of the Institute of Chartered Accountants from monopoly audit firms. In fact, Government appoints only six nominees out of 30 Members, the rest are elected And these nominees are representatives of the Finance Ministry Company Affairs, Labour Ministry etc. and one nominee only is nominated by FICCI ASSOCHAM because we thought they should also be given a hearing. We have developed a convention that not one of them will be Chartered Accountant Therefore, there is no possibility of big audit firms coming in through nomination.

Regarding unemployment of Chartered Accountants, I would like to say that possibly there is no such thing. The Council itself has an Employment Bureau and they have found that there is nobody really unemployed, nobody really wanting to be employed. It is another matter that a person may like to set up his own business and may face difficulties. There may be underemployment, but if he likes to go in for a job, jobs are ready waiting for him today. I am told that a Chartered Accountant who has just passed can today get at least Rs. 1000 or Rs. 1300 to start with.

I do not know, Mr. Salve will be able to say.

SHRI JAGANNATH RAO: He gets much more.

SHRI BEDABRATA BARUA: I am only trying to eliminate negatively some of the misconceptions in the interests of the profession which has got a high degree of professional competence. I have moved with Chartered Accountants for the last five years and more and I have no hesitation in saying that as a profession they have shown a high degree of integrity and competence. There can be a sort of understanding with big houses, I am not so simple as to deny that, they may have some sort of slant about the house that they audit, but the point is that as a profession they have maintained certain ethics and a certain amount of moral standards. I would concede that sometimes they might have ignored certain points As to what Government has done in regard to that, I shall specifically state in a short time.

A Chartered Accountant does not sign blindly, he would not be allowed to sign blindly, he has not done it, because there is criminal liability for negligence, and there is also the disciplinary jurisdiction of the Institute. So, for all these reasons, he cannot simply sign blindly But when he finds that the law allows him not to go deliberately into certain unpleasant aspects of the firms' functioning, he can possibly avoid it But today we have taken certain steps which do not allow him to do that Of course, the steps were taken only in January, this year. We cannot, therefore, really assess exactly as to how it has worked out

I would also say, regarding blackmarketing or black money or tax evasion, actually, the chartered accountant does not very much come into this aspect. The Government has already taken other measures. If a company is selling a particular raw material or half-finished product at a particular price and then it takes something under the table, there will be nothing mentioned in the books that the firm has taken something under the table. It is not something which an auditor can possibly go into. But still we have put a certain responsibility on him.

Then, I would like to say that today we do not uphold the theory that share-holders appoint or elect the auditor. The fact is that, by and large, the auditor gets appointed by the management. So, this itself circumscribes his authority to some extent The law allows this type of a situation The hon. Member who were in the Joint Committee know that the law was amended The Government has been taking a number of steps to see that this nexus, this authority, of the shareholders over the auditor is reduced The Act provides independence and autonomy for him We have taken some other steps also There is an ever-present danger of collusion, not collusion directly, a sort of meeting him day to day, working for him and giving him other services This matter has been raised by hon Members. I am not able to find out what to do about it Something has been done Even today, we have issued an order that if an auditor takes the internal audit of the company, he will not be auditing the company. We have just issued an order today.

We have to separate possibly the other services Now, in the name of "other services", if an auditor gets paid from the same company, possibly, he would be tempted to ignore certain aspects of the firm's functioning But we do not propose to do immediately anything because we have taken a certain number of

measures which are very far-reaching measures. We would like to examine those steps....

SHRI CHINTAMANI PANIGRAHI (Bhubaneshwar): Please let us know the measures.

SHRI BEDABRATA BARUA: First of all, as I said earlier, a ceiling has been put. The ceiling is, 20 audits per auditor. Now, all auditors usually form a firm. Even if I am a sole auditor, I call myself "Barua & Co." or something like that so that I get a status. Usually, a firm appoints a number of auditors There are 6 or 7 auditors in big firms, like, Fergusan and all that. Because we have put a ceiling, they have increased the number to 20 audits if they want to retain auditing. They appoint a number of auditors who are usually in big companies well-paid.

Now, the Chartered Accountants' Council has taken a decision and has given a directive—they also want to take a sort of action—that those members who are in full time service in practising firms of Chartered Accountants should not be counted for the purpose of determining the number of audits. The All-India Institute of Chartered Accountants has been feeling concerned about the developments taking place They have adopted a self-regulatory measure. This does not go far enough in every case But they have taken a certain self-regulatory measure. For example. they have said that senior chartered accountants will not take audit of companies where the audit fee is less than Rs. 2,500. These are the decisions they have taken. They have told the senior chartered accountants and, by and large, they are sticking to it. They have got their own methods to pressurise the auditors who go against this type of a thing. Another aspect, is that while we are not....

SHRI N. K. P. SALVE (Betul): Before the hon. Minister goes to the next point, may I crave your indulgence to ask him a query on this very important change that was made in the Company Law with a view to bring about a certain ceiling of audits in the hands of different Chartered Accountants. The law has been amended to provide that per Chartered Accountant an audit of 20 companies, out of which ten audits alone could be of companies having a paid up capital of more than Rs. 25 lakhs. If you have 20 partners in a firm. then you can have 400 audits. 400 audits is an empire by itself.

May I know from the hon. Minister whether, after this enactment, his Ministry has made any study as to whether any of these larger firms of Chartered Accountants which hold amongst themselves nearly 90 per cent of the audit have really been affected by it? Have they examined the income-tax return of any one of these partners of these large firms to find out whether he has been adversely affected because that alone can be the criteria? There may be several kinds of combinations and permutations.

Then this Rs 25 lakhs paid up capital is something un-understandable because a company with Rs. 25 lakhs paid up capital may have a real capital of several crores of rupees and a company which has a lesser capital may have the entire capital wiped out. But, leaving that apart, what I would like to know is: since it was a change or amendment made in the Company law with very good intentions, whether they have followed it up to determine not merely with reference to statistics of audits but to find out whether it has made any difference to those large monopoly firms of auditors with reference to their income.

SHRI BEDABRATA BARUA I quite concede some of the points However, it is possibly too early to make an assessment Mr Salve himself will concede, but that apart, what has happened is that I have individually met a number of Auditors and they have told me that whereas previously they had seven partners now they have to engage more partners or employ more Chartered Accountants They are giving up some audit I cannot vouch for with a certainty that it is correct but many of them have said that they have to give up some audit I have already once said to start with—that was before Mr Salve came—that concentration possibly has not been very much affected

But what has happened to-day? Apart from the ceiling the new amendment has also provided as Mr Jagannatha Rao has pointed out that to-day in companies where government financial institutions and banks have 51 per cent share government will directly appoint the auditors So Government has come in a big way in the appointment of auditors While nationalisation has not been done and may not be done to-day Government is appointing auditors also in regard to other companies which is a vast area where 25 per cent shares are held by public financial institutions banks & Government Now there are very few large companies where 25 per cent shares are not held by financial institutions banks government—State or the centre I think now most of the big public companies may possibly come under this category and most companies have to pass a special resolution to get the consent of the government institutions to appoint the auditor This is another step that has been taken by the amendment

SHRI N K P SALVE But in how many cases have you followed up this section?

SHRI BEDABRATA BARUA This is an obligatory section Unless a special resolution is passed, it cannot be done That means

SHRI N K P SALVE Perhaps I have not made myself clear Auditors are continuing for several years They will pass a special resolution where the State Government, Central Government public financial institutions and banks are holding 25 per cent shares and without your consent it is impossible to pass a Special Resolution So I want to know whether they have acquiesced in it What I mean is in how many cases you have exercised this option?

SHRI BEDABRATA BARUA In fact the option is with the financial institutions

SHRI N K P SALVE To the extent the Central Government holds

SHRI BEDABRATA BARUA I will not be able to answer that question straightaway

Then we have also introduced cost audit the effect of which will be that government can order auditing the cost of the company which covers the point made about social audit We have got an order popularly called the Company Social Audit Order By virtue of that order now while the Auditor could have possibly ignored some of the points he is now required from the 1st of January to report specifically certify that the records have been kept that he has seen that the management is doing this and that I will do no better than read out a few sentences from there

By virtue of this order, the Auditors' Report on the accounts of a company to which the relevant provisions contained in the Order apply shall have to include a statement whether the company is maintaining

proper records of fixed assets, whether physical verification of fixed assets, finished goods, stores, spare parts and raw material has been done by the management, and discrepancies dealt with in the books of accounts, and whether the valuation of closing stock is fair and proper. In case the company has taken any loans secured or unsecured, he will have to state whether the rate of interest and terms and conditions of loan are prejudicial to the interest of the company.

I would not like to take the time of the House and read out the whole thing. As a consequence of this order, any Auditor has to go into a number of aspects. He should certify, this loan was taken, but was not returned; this money was taken, but this was not credited, etc. Formerely also he possibly was morally bound to look into this but formerly the requirement was not mainly so stated and he could possibly not look into it. But how he has to certify that he has gone into it. This is a very important provision which has really introduced social audit. Although it will take one or two years to know the outcome of this, I would like to say that Government is confident that this would certainly create a very important change in the auditing system in the country. I have already covered most of the grounds. Ceiling on five would be very difficult. Even on the ceiling on twenty, I have found this hurt small Chartered Accountants in backward States. I have found that this ceiling had hurt them of all persons. I have asked the President of the Institute as to what he is doing for them because we have to think about it as a small audit may pay him Rs. 500 or Rs. 200 and now if the ceiling is twenty, he may not get Rs. 3000 or Rs. 4000 in the year. In fact, to bring down the ceiling to five, there may be redistribution at the top but it will not touch the bottom. It is no argument for not re-distributing but I am saying about the practical difficulties. Otherwise we would not have taken time in the committee for nearly one year and yet we could not come to a decision. Ultimately the Institute itself came forward with certain suggestions and some leadership was given by the Institute and we all came to the conclusion that this was the best way out.

Regarding rotation, it was considered and it was not found possible ultimately. I am not discussing the House concept today because in the House a company could change from one place to the other, Birlas could take a man from Texmaco to Jiyajirao Cotton Mills or a man from Keshaoram Mills could go to Century Mills and we would be able to do nothing about it. So, rotation is not the answer.

As I have stated, Government has taken a number of steps. Government would not like to disturb this profession unduly. As I have already said, this is a profession which has been contributing a lot to the industrial system. They require support. They require at the same time some regulation. We would not like to believe that they are doing everything right. At the same time we would like to encourage them to go ahead and we have made a number of regulations. We are persuading them, even coaxing them, to take measures, something which they did not want to take or may not have liked to take. In regard to the position of the Chartered Accountants, Government would like to stop speculation in this matter and I would like categorically to state that there will be no nationalisation of this profession. This idea itself is nebulous as to whether Government would appoint all the auditors, whether by appointing the auditors Government would really gain anything, etc. because that may lead to only Government officers auditing the thing and that

[Shri Bedabrata Barua]

does not prevent anything that is now supposed to have taken place because Government officers going and auditing could be no better than any other person auditing. We would like to have one or two years to consider all the developments. In the meantime the problem has been sufficiently discussed in the country already and I thank again Mr. Panigrahi for raising this debate which has been a very very interesting debate.

Mr. Panigrahi himself has raised the standard of the debate by bringing in every aspect of the matter before the House on the subject under discussion. I hope Mr. Panigrahi, after the discussion, will withdraw his Bill in view of the Government's position and the explanation that I have given.

SHRI CHINTAMANI PANIGRAHI (Bhubaneshwar): Mr. Chairman, Sir, first of all, I thank all the Members who have participated in this debate, especially for the strong support given by Shri Salve and Naik But, in view of the present economic circumstances that is prevailing, I feel, that this Bill is relevant When this Bill was discussed in this House on 13th, one important member of the Institute of Chartered Accountants was meeting many of the Members of Parliament—perhaps he was more hectic than Government—and I was wondering whether he had been able to influence them. Perhaps one hon. Member had been affected. A vast section of this House has given strong support to this Bill

While discussing this Bill, I said that this Bill was introduced in 1971. One hon. Member said that between 1971 and 1974 much water has flowed under the bridge of the Yamuna I should say that between 1974 and 1976 not only much water has flowed in the Yamuna but in the Ganges and the Saraswati also All the rivers in India are overflown. The Minister has to declare an emergency and now the 20-Point Economic Programme is before us. That is for checking the profiteering, hoarding, blackmarketing etc. This 20-Point programme asks us to check the price rise. We shall also have to look to the cost aspect of the products of the industries so that the prices are controlled. Auditing is the only profession which is there to assist the Government in carrying out its responsibility.

The Minister, in his reply, said that Government has issued a fresh order enforcing a social audit in the corporate sector. The auditors are required to conform to this new order. And it will be in tune with the 20-Point Economic Programme so as to keep control over the auditing of these big business companies and their management.

I would like again to put this before the hon Minister. I am very happy that he has given some suggestions There was no aim to disturb the chartered accountants. There are today more than 11,000 chartered accountants in the country and 8,000 auditing firms There was an order even by the Finance Ministry that even in the public sector and the various Ministries and departments, there is capacity to absorb 2,800 chartered accountants. But it has been found that in the public sector only 7-8 per cent of the estimated figure is absorbed. So can we not ask the public sector and government departments to disperse the audit? That is the point. Audit should be dispersed so that the minimum number which was calculated can easily find their jobs in the public sector corporations and government departments. Why can it not be done? It should also be done. I request the hon Minister to look into it

Then it was said that the audit profession should not be nationalised. I am not an astrologer or a professor. I do not know whether the hon. Minister thinks that what he says today will hold good for all time; I cannot say what will happen tomorrow. If a situation arises, if the situation calls for such a thing, it has to be considered. The Prime Minister takes only two minutes to decide a thing. If we really want to do it, if such a problem comes, any moment it can be taken up. I hope Government will go by the directive when such a situation arises. I did not say that you nationalise here and now. What I said was that if the situation demands, it should be taken up for consideration. If we want to check this blackmarketing—Shri B. V. Naik referred to the unearthing of Rs. 1500 crores of black money—this audit should be fully under the control of Government, because this is the only apparatus which can check everything at the source. If you want to save Ganga, no use going to Hooghly where all the way it has been polluted; it is better to go to the source, Gangotri. This is what I said. Let us check it at Gangotri, at the source where all the corruption emanates. That was my aim and that was what I was submitting for the consideration of Government.

I am very glad that the hon. Minister, though not in a very clear and straightforward way, did give many hints that things are not so good, they are not as good as they should be. I am happy he has given sufficient indication that things will be taken seriously into consideration by Government.

It was said that this audit profession is a kind of expertise, so only people have to come to Calcutta, Delhi, Madras and Bombay. I think the whole aim of Government is to disperse expertise to the several lakhs of villages in the country. The Prime Minister is all the time saying that technology should go to the villages. What is the meaning of all this high technology if at least one per cent of the 60 per cent who are living below the poverty line do not get the benefit of it? Today 8000 auditors are there. We have such good expertise. It cannot be said 'We have 120 monopoly houses. Give us another 20 monopoly houses; we will help this country'. This is no answer to our problems. Expertise should not be exploited; it should not be used as an abettor in the creation of black money, profiteering. They cannot do like that.

So I am very happy that this matter was sufficiently discussed. I am also happy that after the twenty-point economic programme and the Company Amendment Act, so far as the audit profession is concerned, it needs further consideration. I am happy to note that the hon. Minister has said that strict orders have gone forth for a kind of social audit so that various things would be checked, inventories and other things will be looked into. Let the audit firms be conscious of the new responsibility that has come to this country after the emergency and the twenty-point economic programme. I hope in view of the changes that have come about, they should not go on canvassing; let no one from the Institute of Chartered Accountants try to canvass and convince members that we have had discussion in 1974 and there is no need for discussion in 1974. That should not be. Let them be careful of themselves. In view of what the hon. Minister has stated and, also being a party Member I should go by the directive. I beg to withdraw my Bill.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Has the hon. Member leave of the House to withdraw his Bill?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Yes.

The Bill was, by leave, withdrawn.

16.50 hrs.

CONSTITUTION (AMENDMENT) BILL

(Amendment of articles 74 and 163 by Shri C K Chandrappan)

SHRI C K. CHANDRAPPAN (Tellicherry) Sir I beg to move

'That the Bill further to amend the Constitution of India be taken into consideration

This Bill seeks to provide a ceiling on the number in the council of ministers in Parliament as well as in State assemblies I think the whole House will agree that there is need for such a ceiling on the number of the council of ministers On 8 December 1967 a resolution was unanimously passed in this House This House is of opinion that a high level committee consisting of representatives of political parties constitutional experts be set up immediately by the government to consider the problem of legislators changing their allegiance from one party to another and their frequent crossing of the floor in all its aspects and make recommendations in this regard" After that a committee was appointed and it included eminent constitutionalists representatives of various political parties and other public men There was a lawyers group The Committee of Defection produced a report and that report has been placed before us In that report several important aspects of our political life are discussed aspects which polluted the atmosphere and created a situation by which democratic institutions could be weakened The question of defection was one of the very important aspects that the committee discussed They recommended that there should be a ceiling on the size of the council of ministers

It is not only because the country could not afford to pay unnecessarily when cabinets are expanded but also because cabinet expansions were used as instruments for defection. Cabinet expansion in many cases had been used as an exercise in political corruption So, if we want to weed out that kind of corrupt political atmosphere from our country and create healthy traditions to strengthen the democratic institutions various actions have to be taken A ceiling on the number of ministers at the Centre and the States is one of the steps required

Some time ago I had an opportunity to move another Bill regarding the right to recall but unfortunately the government was not ready to accept that Coming to the magnitude of the problem we are facing today, in the introduction to the report it is said

> Out of the 542 defections which took place from the first to the fourth general elections 116 defectors were accommodated in the Cabinets of various States

That means nearly one-fourth of the total defectors were lured to the Cabinet That is a case of political corruption You tell them "Please come to this side We will give you a seat in the Cabinet" There are people ready to cross the floor That happened in our country in a big way That is one of the reasons which prompted me to move this Bill This kind of floor-crossing, defecting from one party to another and multiple defections are another symptom of political instability Some persons defect from one party to another today The next day they defect from that party to a third party The third day they come back to the original party and so on Haryana is notorious for that, which provoked Mr Chavan to say, "Gaya Rams and Aya Rams" This does not do credit to any country That does not show the growing maturity of democracy

in our country. This kind of tendency finds expression when there is political instability in any State.

This committee says:

> "That lure of office played a dominant part in the decision of legislators to defect was obvious from the fact that out of 210 defecting legislators of the States of Bihar, Haryana, M.P., Punjab, Rajasthan, U.P. and West Bengal 116 were included in the council of ministers...."

So, my earlier figure was wrong. Out of 210 defectors, 116 found a berth in the council of ministers!

17 hrs.

It is very difficult to study what happened in all States, but I made a sample study of four States. In Bihar, there were ministries which had only 3 members. They could manage. But there were Ministries with 37 members What was the rationale behind it? Whenever there was political instability in a State, when the Chief Minister thought that his chair was not very safe, he tried to attract members from the opposition and offered them seats in the Council of Ministers. For example, when Shri B. P. Mandal of the Soshit Dal was the Chief Minister, he had a cabinet of 34 members. He was out-done by Shri Kedar Pandey, who had a Cabinet of 35 members, which was later raised to 37. Shri Ghafoor of the Congress Party had a Cabinet of 46 members. How can this be justified? The object should be to have a compact small Cabinet to run the administration efficiently. I am sure, Comrade Ramavatar Shastri will refer to all the tricks played by the Chief Ministers. In fact, there were occasions when in some parties there were no followers because all were Ministers. This happened in Bihar.

Then, take a small State like Manipur. They also indulged in this very brilliant trick of Cabinet-making. The smallest Ministry in that State had only three members. I have tried to study the position there from 1961 to 1975. When Shri Raj Kumar Dorendra Singh was the leader of the Democratic Legislative Party, his Council of Ministers consisted of 19 members. If he had added a few more members, 50 per cent of the Assembly Members would have been in the Council of Ministers. How could this be justified? In the case of a poor and small State like Manipur, whose requirement is very small, the strength of the Council of Ministers had gone to this fantastic figure of 19.

It is the same story in the case of UP when the SVD Ministry was in power. They did the same exercise.

In Punjab this was done by Shri Prakash Singh Badal, who belonged to the Akalis. when he was the Chief Minister. His Ministry had 26 members, and the smallest Ministry in that State had only two members. These are some of the exercises done by Chief Ministers for remaining in office

17.05 hrs.

[SHRI VASANT SATHE *in the Chair*]

Now, the question is how we can overcome this situation. If we have to overcome this situation, then, first of all, there should be a great political awareness created among the people. Giving them the right of recalling the Members who are defecting is the only answer. If a Member defects, those who elected him must have the right to recall him. This is an enabling provision by which we can see that at least some political morality is imposed on the Chief Ministers because they cannot go beyond a certain limit because of the constiutional limitation binding their hands from indulging

hri C. K. Chandrappan]

in the exercise of political corruption.

The Committee on Defections, after discussions, reached a consensus which was more or less expressed in their Report thus:

> "The formula before the Committee was that the size of the Council of Ministers should not exceed ten per cent of the strength of the Lower House in the case of unicameral and 11 per cent of the strength of the Lower House in the case of a bicameral Legislature. In regard to the States and Union Territories where the srength of the Legislatures was below 100, the size of the Council should be fixed so as not to exceed 15 per cent of the strength of the Lower House."

Various parties expressed their positions very clearly in regard to this problem For example, our party, the Communist Party, took the position as under:

> "The size of the Council of Ministers shall be restricted to ten per cent of the total membership of the Lower House or 30, whichever is less."

Shri Jaiprakash Narain said that in regard to the numerical strength, the consensus would be that 50 should be the maximum to which a State can go in making the Council of Ministers. But the unfortunate thing is that many years have passed and the Government has not come forward with any legislation to create a healthy atmosphere in strengthening our democracy. That is the reason why I thought this kind of a Bill should be introduced in this House.

My request would be that the Government should accept that there is need to create an atmosphere by which the democratic institutions will be strengthened, the politics of our country will be cleaned and all those factors which are leading to political corruption will be fully eliminated. For that there is bold and decisive action required from the Government, but I am sorry to say that the Government is not forthcoming with any suggestions. Their actions are still more disappointing.

Only today we read in papers that the Congress party has adopted six Members from this side to that side of the House, three Members from this House and three Members from the other House. Mr. Stephen will say that at the time of Gujarat discussion, we discussed the same point He said that the people might change genuinely and, when they change genuinely, they may take a new political position and that new political position might find itself in the expression of their joining a new party I am not against it. If you ask me, whether it is a good thing, I would say, if a person with a reactionary idea changes to a progressive idea, to a better idea, it is a good thing. But there is a problem. In a parliamentary democracy, in terms of membership of the Legislature or the Parliament, if you exercise this practice, it becomes very difficult.

I do not mind a political party canvassing for its politics, projecting its philosophy, projecting its programme, before the people and attracting the people towards it. It is a good thing. But here the Members of the Legislative Assembly, the Members of Parliament, are the elected people. They are not just individuals. The Members of Parliament are elected by nearly a million people. We are responsible to them. They vote for me; they vote for Mr. Stephen or for Mr. Mavalankar, not just as individuals. You symbolise a certain programme, a certain political party, a certain political ideology. You symbolise certain goals which the people cherish and vote for you. In the House, you are representing a certain philosophy, a certain programme, a certain ideology, certain goals which your voters cherish and vote for you.

I have no business, after coming to this place, to betray my voters and pass on to this side or that side of the House. I can do it in my individual capacity but not as a Member of Parliament, not as a legislator. That is an immoral political action. It is a corrupt political practice. This is being done on a large scale.

Now, if I am not to be misunderstood, I may tell you, in all seriousness that a Jana Sangh Member overnight joined the party on that side under the shadow of Emergency, under the shadow of MISA. It does not strengthen the content of the Congress party. Of course, I am nobody to advise the Congress party. But I am more concerned about the future of democracy in this country. If the reactionary forces are to be fought and defeated, then you have to fight against them, against their ideology and politics not merely by putting them under MISA for 10 days, blackmailing them and taking them to your party. That will lead to a position where you will create political instability in your own ranks. Then, the game of disruption, de-stabilisation, in your party which was done from outside will be played from within. That will be the danger. The disruption will be from within.

That is not going to strengthen the democratic elements in our country. That will weaken the democratic institution in our country. That will create cynicism in the minds of the people, that will create despair; that will create frustration in the minds of the people. Those parties and those individuals who plead or who believe seriously that this country should go on the path of democracy, that this country should attain its goal, that the democratic institution gets strengthened, let us resolve that we will do everything possible to make the democratic institution strong by honestly working for it and sincerely working for it. In that case, I am not saying this is an end in itself—this Bill or this thing. There are series of remedial measures suggested. A right to recall means that you are accepting the right of the people as the masters and here you are enabling and you are restricting the Chief Ministers as also the Prime Minister in regard to indulging in politically corrupt practiecs....

SHRI M. RAM GOPAL REDDY (Nizamabad): *Om Shanti.*

SHRI C. K. CHANDRAPPAN: I am only saying that in that spirit the Minister should approach this matter and I also request my friend that no bitterness is meant. It is all an effort to come to a good result and a right conclusion which will strengthen the democracy.

I am commending this Bill for the approval of the House.

SHRI B. V. NAIK (Kanara): As far as the marshalling of facts and figures is concerned, the contemporary and the recent past history of India is concerned and that of the various States, various Ministries irrespective of the parties which were in power, I could not add anything more to what the hon. and learned friend and the mover of this Bill, Shri C. K. Chandrappan has said.

But, while his diagnosis of the malaise or the malady of the body-politic of this country is understandable, while he has gone with a perfectly analytical mind which is evidenced by the facts and figures he has adduced, I wonder whether the solution that he has put forward or he has offered, that the total number or the size of the Council of Ministers should not exceed 10 per cent of the total strength of the Lok Sabha or the competent legislature to which the respective Council of Ministers is accountable—whether this solution or this remedy is the remedy is the thing which this august House should apply its mind to.

[Shri B. V. Naik]

It has been said and it is well-known in the field and in the arena of human management and governmental administration that thinking as an individual is invariably less effective. In the agonies of a genius and the ecstasy of the fulfilment of his work, it is true that acts of genius have never been done by groups of people but, in the governance of the affairs of men, it has always been held that group activity has always been found superior to individual activity. That is the reason why among most of the competent leaders in the world in whom the decision-making is concentrated, not an individual has ever succeeded over a long period of time. It is the group which has always been considered superior to the individual, however talented or capable the individual may be. Similarly, the group when it tends to increase in size, goes to the stage of becoming a mob. That has been calculated by socialogists to range anywhere between 30 and 50. Anything which transcends this limit for our species of human beings, above 50.... The decision-making naturally degenerates because it becomes a decision of the mob. Under the circumstances, it can be a sort of group activity like sports, like games, cricket or hockey or football, or like the activities of many earlier political groups, the earliest Christian cells after Jesus, even the size of a communist cell, and now, for example, in contemporary times, the size of the *shaka* of the RSS. All these groups have been well-defined. Take the size of the platoon or that of a rank of 11 people in the army, the way in which they are organised and so on. Under the circumstances, the group has to be homogeneous. The group should be like-minded. The group should be of reasonable size. But no group will be in a position to deliver the goods particularly in the extremely sophisticated field in which everybody thinks he has the skills of governing a people, but which he really does not have. This is one field where anybody thinks he is qualified, but most of the people are disqualified. And therefore, even a group does not become effective until and unless it has that catalytic agent. Some like-minded groups have failed because they lacked one thing—the catalytic agent—in the form of the group leadership or a single person to make the whole circle complete. I would therefore suggest that there should be discretion The mere fact that there will be a cabinet upto ten per cent will make it like some of the bureaucratic and systematic order where people would keep on hanging at the doors of the leader of the ruling party or whoever it is or the Chief Minister or the Prime Minister saying that there are still three more vacancies, kindly fill them up, although there might be no need for it at all.

Under the circumstances, quantifying a basic political problem would be a solution which would be much worse than the problem that we have on hand. Therefore, while I welcome the spirit of the Bill which the hon. Member Shri Chandreppan has brought forward, I would like to say that the form in which it has been presented may present obstacles in the matter of actual governance of the people. Therefore, while supporting the spirit of the Bill, I have to raise my voice of objection to the form of it.

SHRI S. P. BHATTACHARYYA (Uluberia): I support the proposals. As the present system is going on for some years in this country, this is one of the steps to check the Parliament or State Assemblies from becoming playgrounds of political manoeuvring and getting into the position of ministers not for the solution of people's problems but for their own individual interests. If the cabinet is fixed, then, the party in power or newly elected powerful party will fix the cabinet according to their best personality and the other parties will not be able to make power politics to enter into the cabinet for their personal interests and thus create instability.

This is one of the solutions for having a good Government in our country. And this is part of it. But, the problems are too many in our country. In our country, from the very beginning, elections were manoeuvred by the vested interests; they squeeze the voters to support their own and interested persons and to have their own persons represented.

There is illiteracy in our country where the innocent—ordinary—people can be fooled and these self-interested people by taking advantage of this might fulfil their personal interests by cheating the people. These things are going on in our country. I do not know how long it will go on. If you want our country to have the democratic system as an ideal thing, being a non-aligned country surrounded by the socialist countries, we have to try to have this democratic system. By this system, we shall be able to solve the problems of the people. We are all here to make a good democratic system functioning in this country. For that purpose, we will have to have a stable democracy. For that, playing of football in Parliament or in Assemblies must first of all be stopped. A serious, sincere, political struggle may be there. Unless the full problems are solved, no individual's satisfaction should be allowed to come in the way of the nation's interest. If, for one's own interest, one supports one party or the other which can fulfil the interests of that individual, and for that purpose, pressure is exerted within Parliament or in the States that corrupts the whole system.

So, to check that, this is one of the steps suggested by my hon. friend, Shri Chandrappan by his amendment.

I support his amendment without going into the merits of it.

SHRI K. LAKKAPPA (Tumkur): Mr. Chairman, Sir, at the outset, by the very nature of the Bill brought by Shri Chandrappan, though there is a certain justification for it, this is an infructuous thing.

SHRI M. C. DAGA: How can these two things go together in one sentence?

SHRI K. LAKKAPPA: Because of this one reason that we cannot take advantage of this Bill and castigate or cast any aspersion on the present Government.

The reason is that our Government has brought about a certain revolutionary change by the constitutional amendments. I think Mr. Daga and also all the other Members of the party are also represented. It is not the problem of the present Government or the previous Government. The Parliamentary Democracy in India is undergoing a change; many experiments have been tried in this country. I hope that in your State a lot of experiment has been taking place. I think we have seen many of the Governments operating in our country. I think the Governments of all character, Governments with all ideologies and Governments of all political philosophies are there. They could not bring about the changes needed in the country which Mr. Chandrappan is dreaming, namely, to change the character of the Government.

In all humility I say that we have to function under a Parliamentary Democracy. In doing so we must also see that India is a big country where many experiments have been taking place and many developments also have been taking place and many political operations and manipulations are there. Even if such a system is being sustained for a long time, you know there is some one to scuttle the entire system of our Parliamentary Democracy in each State in this country. And so, our Government Leader has taken care to see that Parliamentary Democracy is strengthened and it functions well. We must therefore see that democracy in the real sense of the term is defended. I hope that you will all agree with me on this.

[Shri K Lakkappa]

There are in India many big States, medium States and small States Parliamentary democracy means stability of government I do not say the size of the Ministry should be abnormal that all sorts of people should be there in the Ministry, people without any character and so on But we should also see that the Ministry must be a good one and there is stability But the Mover is questioning the very basis of democracy It is the prerogative of the Minister/Chief Minister to choose Ministers ensure stability, to decide what should be the size of the Ministry That does not mean that there should not be homogeneity cohesiveness or collective responsibility or stability There have been many governments in various States For the last so many years before the emergency this was the position in Kerala or elsewhere That is why all prudence and intelligence has been used by this Government We have taken stock of the situation and developments Certain measures have been taken which are of far-reaching importance There is a Joint Committee which is going into the question of defections and trying to suggest suitable changes I have seen all experts constitutional thinkers, jurists lawyers people of all shades of opinion representatives of all political parties giving evidence

SHRI C K CHANDRAPPAN Is it coming?

SHRI K LAKKAPPA Discussions are going on Even day before yesterday, I attended a meeting

SHRI C K CHANDRAPPAN What are we discussing for five years?

SHRI K LAKKAPPA You cannot immediately jump to a conclusion and say that everything is wrong I have seen that even your party leaders could not offer the correct or best solution It is not enough for you to say 'cut the size of the Ministry'. It is not enough to talk merely of stability These are not the only elements in a constructive democracy Parliamentary democracy presupposes so many other things You must create an atmosphere you must have economic freedom you must have all-round development

The Mover could have brought forward a comprehensive Bill or he could have waited till the completion of the deliberations of the Committee which is looking into the matter and their Report is before the House I think he has been hasty I do not know what has happened Generally he is very progressive and pragmatic

Therefore I do not think any useful purpose has been served except for passing certain remarks It may have served an educative purpose Though I appreciate that Shri Chandrappan always puts forward progressive and pragmatic ideas this is one instance where he has brought forward something which is really unfructuous and very perverse The way it has been drafted is also not very

SHRI M C DAGA Why do you say perverse?

SHRI K LAKKAPPA Because he was making a scathing attack against my party Defections have taken place in almost all the parties In a small party like the CPI the size of the defection is small the CPI(M) is a small party therefore the defection is small In the States there are small parties, therefore, the defections have been small

SHRI C K CHANDRAPPAN The bigger the party the bigger the defection

SHRI K LAKKAPPA In that way we are all having an experiment Therefore, let us all sit together and

think together. What best we can do, we must do; we must have a collective idea how to strengthen parliamentary democracy. Therefore, I hope and trust that Shri Chandrappan will withdraw his Bill.

SHRI C. M. STEPHEN (Muvathupuzha): Mr. Chairman, if I may be permitted to say what I actually feel about the Bill, my honest reaction is that this is a purposeless Bill. I feel interested more in the reason spelt out by the Mover rather than the Bill itself. I am unable to discover any connection between the two. By this Bill he seeks a remedy to what he considers to be the basic defect in the body-politic of this country. I do not see how this Bill could remedy that. I have before me the report on which he has placed so much reliance. That report contains a dissenting note by his leader, Shri Bhupesh Gupta and his comment is that those recommendations do not even touch the fringe of the problem and so it is like running after mirage The point is this. Why exactly are defections taking place? Are defections really as bad as they are sought to be made? Or is it a symptom of certain developments in the body-politic? I am not one who magnifies what is known as defection. Our Constitution is not a party based constitution. In our Constitution there is no mention of political parties at all. There is no constitutional recognition of political party by our Constitution. It is only the Representation of the Peoples Act that acknowledges the party concept. We reckon only the people in our Constitution. A person contests, may be on his own strength or on the strength of a platform or on the backing of a political party or a combination of political parties. People make their choice and send the person to Parliament and Parliament is supposed to reflect the totality of the changes in the body-politic and that change would reflect on different political parties. A party may cease to represent the sense of the people; a party may start disintegrating and the members of that party may feel that their party is disintegrating and people have withdrawn their mandate; the members of a party may feel that their party has committed a breach of faith with the people with respect to the platform on which the election was contested. When developments take place like this, a member may feel that the party's fidelity to the electorate had been broken and therefore he should not continue in that political party any longer. Then would it be proper to insist that he should not leave that party? That is the main quetstion. Party whips are there to a certain extent. In the British and American political systems the party whips do not operate to that extent; members of the party have certain freedom in the matter of taking up positions; they can ever go and vote against a Bill in Parliament, against their own party. There is the dignity of the individual, and all that is conceded. A person is selected by a party, that person is projected by the party before the electorate as a perfectly acceptable person and people accept that person. All proceed from the basis that that particular candidate as an individual is a fairly acceptable person The question is, on political issues coming up before the Parliament or legislatures, whether or not he should have a certain measure of freedom to take up a position. There is an interesting passage in the minute of dissent of Mr. Bhupesh Gupta which I quote:

> "Defection in the sense of the crossing of the floor of the House is no new occurrence in bourgeois parliamentary democracy, especially under a multi-party system. This essentially reflects the fluidity of a country's political life and often the polarisation of its political forces. More fundamental contradictions and conflicts in

[Shri C. M. Stephen]

society including those within the ruling class itself lie at the root of political fluctuations at parliamentary level. The process is liable to become all the more pronounced when the ruling class and the parties variously representing it are in crisis and disintegrating. We are passing precisely through such a phase of crisis of bourgeois rule as well as of the rapid disintegration of its principal party—the Indian National Congress."

This is his assessment. The Indian National Congress is in a very disintegrated situation today. That is a different matter altogether. One truth is spelt out, namely, this will happen when destabilisation of the entire political structure takes place and persons re-assess their positions as to where they should be. To castigate this as a basic curse, I don't think is a correct approach. Our Constitution is not based on this at all. Therefore, any restriction which is placed on the freedom of operation will not be conducive to the stability of the parliamentary democratic system.

Look at the Central Ministry. Out of the 770 members of Parliament in both Houses, even without Mr. Chandrappan's amendment to the Constitution, the number in the Council of Ministers, including Deputy Ministers, is only around 60. Some members have come over to our party, but is for induction into the ministry? Why should you presume that something dishonest is behind their coming over to our party? Why can't you concede to him the contention that persons who are still sticking to a certain political party in spite of the manifest position that the people are not in line with that party, are either moral cowards or insincer people? Why should you assume that people who have jumped from a sinking boat are dishonest? Let there be no assumptions that way. We are here as individuals. We may move this side or that side, but the moment you move, it does not mean you are a dishonest person. If a person sincerely feels that his party had committed a breach of faith with the people, should be only alternatives open to him be either to sink, be an accomplice in the commission of breach of faith or quit Parliament, undergo the anguish of another exercise of going through an election and be in the wilderness? Should these be the only alternatives *before him? If Mr. Bhupesh Gupta's* dictum is accepted, that is to say, changes and fluctuations are taking place in accordance with the changes in what he calls the bourgeois parliamentary system, should not our laws be framed in such a manner as to make it possible for those fluctuations to be taking place? To make it rigid in structure would have the effect of breaking the entire system and it would not facilitate the democratic process, or revolutionary process through democratic functioning.

With respect to defection, although a magnificent committee was set up and although all the great men and all the big men were placed in it, the only solitary recommendation which they could make was to restrict the size of the Cabinet to 10 per cent. Even with respect to the limit, the question was whether it should be 10 per cent or 12 per cent. This shows how limited, short-sighted, circumscribed and fettered were these great men in their approach to a basic problem.

I must agree with Shri Bhupesh Gupta that they failed to understand the modalities and the dynamism and the irresistible logic of certain political changes and political fluctuations that are inevitable in a changing society. If this is to be reflected in an elected representative, then he must have a certain freedom to move this way or that way.

You will not find a person getting away from the Congress today. Why? Because, contrary to your anticipa-

tions, the Congress is not a disintegrating party. It represents the will of the people. Therefore, the persons who are in it are the representatives of the people. Thinking is taking place for a change in other parties, because they feel that their boat is sinking and that they are not reflecting the will of the people. This is the way that you have to approach this problem.

Coming to the limit of 10 per cent, I would say that it is absolutely artificial. Why do you not concede that a person who is elected to be the leader of a State, or the country, by the elected Sovereign Parliament, or the Legislature which is sovereign in its own sphere, has got a certain sense of responsibility? If you do not concede that, then democracy comes to an end. If you concede that, then there is no relevance for putting any artificial limit, saying that it should be either 10 per cent or 12 per cent. Now you start with the assumption that a man who comes here is not a perfect man, he does not have a sense of responsibility, he is corruptible, susceptible to corruption and other things. The moment you proceed on this assumption, then you proceed to the further assumption that the men who elected him are also imperfect If you proceed to that assumption, then you are digging at the very root of democracy. Why do you not accept the political wisdom of the man who is elected, why do you not concede that he is a person with a sufficient sense of responsibility? If you do not concede that, then democracy collapses. If you concede that, then this rigidity will have no place because this artificiality will mean the destruction of the democratic structure.

Therefore, the very approach is wrong, because it is born out of a wrong conception of the society because it is born out of a wrong appreciation of the solution. The solution is more dangerous than the disease. As the solution is indicative of a lack of faith in democracy, this Bill is undemocratic. So, I oppose this Bill.

श्री रामावतार शास्त्री (पटना) : सभापति जी, मैं इस विधेयक का जोरदार समर्थन करने के लिए खड़ा हुआ हूं। श्री स्टीफेन ने जितने जोरदार तरीके से इसका विरोध किया और उसे गैर-जनतांत्रिक बताया, उसी लहजे और उसी जोर के साथ मैं विधेयक को व्यावहारिक और समय की पुकार के अनुकूल मानता हूं। जब तक कांग्रेस देश में शक्तिशाली रही, शासन तंत्र पर इसकी इजारेदारी रही, इसका एकाधिकार रहा तब तक आप देखें तो पता चलेगा कि मंत्रिमंडलों की संख्या बढ़ाने की आवश्यकता नहीं पड़ी। आयाराम और गयाराम की बीमारी 1967 में शुरू हुई, उस चुनाव के बाद शुरू हुई। उस चुनाव में कांग्रेस नौ राज्यों में पराजित हो गई थी और वहां कांग्रेस का शासन, उसका एकाधिकार समाप्त हो गया था। उस समय संयुक्त मोर्चों की सरकार आई, उसकी दौर प्रारम्भ हुई, क्योंकि वे सरकारें दस ग्यारह महीने तक ही चल सकीं क्योंकि उनके अन्दर आन्तरिक अन्तर्विरोध था। उन बातों में मैं इस वक्त जाना नहीं चाहता। जब शासन पर से कांग्रेस का इजारेदारी समाप्त हुई, उसके बाद कांग्रेस ने देखा कि दूसरे दलों के लोग सरकारें नहीं चला सके तो उसने तोड़फोड़ की नीति अपनाई, उन लोगों को तरह तरह के प्रलोभन दिए जाने लगे। इसका नतीजा यह हुआ कि एक के बाद एक मंत्रिमंडल धराशायी होने लगे। कहीं-कहीं पर तो कांग्रेस पावर में आ गई और जहां यह सम्भव नहीं हो सका तो उसने अपने शिखंडियों को खड़ा किया।

सभापति महोदय : मैं बिहार की बात आपको बतलाना चाहता हूं। 1967 में श्री महामाया प्रसाद सिन्हा के नेतृत्व में संयुक्त मंत्रिमंडल बना जिस में कांग्रेस को छोड़ कर करीब-करीब सभी दलों से लोगों को लिया गया। उसको गिराने के लिए शोषित दल को इसने खड़ा किया। श्री बी पी मंडल जो इस सदन के माननीय सदस्य रह चुके हैं, जो 1971 में चुनाव हार गए, उन्हें खड़ा किया गया। उनको लाने के पहले उनके ही दल के एक श्री सतीश प्रसाद को तीन दिन के लिए मुख्य मंत्री बनाया गया। श्री सतीश प्रसाद आजकल सिनेमा के एक्टर हैं। वह अब राजनीति में नहीं हैं। एक कालेज उन्होंने चलाया। उस में उन्होंने लाखों पए का गोलमाल किया। उसके बाद आज वह सिनेमा के एक्टर हैं। उन्हें तीन दिन के लिए मुख्य मंत्री बनाया गया। उसके बाद श्री बी पी मंडल को काउंसिल का सदस्य बना करके मुख्य मंत्री बनाया गया और जितने शोषित दल के सदस्य थे उन सभी को 34 के 34 को मंत्रिमंडल में ले लिया गया ताकि वे भागने न पाएं। बाद में 37 को लिया गया।

श्री मूल चन्द डागा : आप पुरानी बातें कर रहे हैं।

सभापति महोदय : ये तो रामायण तक में चले जाएंगे।

श्री रामावतार शास्त्री : आठ साल पहले की बात कह रहा हूं। एक दशक अभी पूरा नहीं हुआ है।

उनके दल में जितने लोग थे सब को मंत्रिमंडल में ले लिया गया। पहले उनकी संख्या 34 थी बाद में 37 हो गई। जिस को दस्तखत करने भी नहीं आते थे उनको भी मंत्री बना दिया गया। जिन को नोट का अर्थ तक मालूम नहीं, यह पता नहीं था कि सरकारी भाषा में नोट किस को कहते हैं, जो दूसरे नोट को ही जानते थे, घूस लेते थे उनको मंत्रिमंडल में ले लिया गया। 1967 से 1975 तक 11 मंत्रिमंडल यहां बने और 27 बार रिशफलिंग मंत्रिमंडलों की हुई। गफूर मंत्रिमंडल में 46 सदस्य थे। शोषित दल के मंत्रिमंडल में 37 थे। संगठन कांग्रेस के नेता सरदार हरिहर सिंह के मंत्रिमंडल में 33 थे। संगठन कांग्रेस के भाई यहां नहीं हैं। वे भी बड़ी लम्बीलम्बी बातें किया करते हैं। उन्होंने भी 33 का मंत्रिमंडल बनाया। लोगों को डिफेक्ट करने के लिए हर तरह से प्रोत्साहन दिया गया, आयाराम गयाराम की बीमारी को बढ़ावा दिया गया। यह नहीं सोचा गया कि राज्य के धन का कितना अपव्यय इस तरह से होता है। मंत्रियों को तनख्वाह मिलती हैं। उनको गाड़ियां मिलती हैं। चुन-चुन कर गाड़ियां ले लेते हैं। कहते हैं यह नहीं लगे यह लगे। बैस्ट गाड़ियां उनको चाहिएं। तनख्वाह चाहिए। दौरे पर जाएंगे तो भत्ता, टी ए, डी ए आदि चाहिए। इस तरह से लाखों लाख रुपया राज्य का बरबाद होता है। हमारा राज्य धन धान्य से पूर्ण है। लेकिन उस राज्य की कैसी दुर्गति हो रही है इसको आप देख लें। कभी वहां बाढ़ आती है और कभी सुखाड़ होता है। इस साल वहां पर सुखाड़ की समस्या कहीं-कहीं नजर आ रही है। मैं आर्थिक दृष्टिकोण से बोल रहा हूं। जितना छोटा मंत्रिमंडल होगा उतनी ही उस में कम्पैक्टनेस रहेगी, उतनी ही जल्दी से लोग फैसले ले सकेंगे और उनको कार्यान्वित कर सकेंगे। काम समय पर होगा और राज्य के धन का अपव्यय कम होगा। लेकिन ऐसा नहीं होता है। मंत्रिमंडलों में मंत्रियों की संख्या बढ़ाते जाते हैं क्योंकि सब गुटों को सन्तुष्ट करना होता है। हमारे यहां तो जात की बात भी बहुत चलती है। हर जात का मंत्री होना चाहिए। जाट के

नाम पर अगर मंत्रिमंडल में मंत्री नहीं होंगे तो मंत्रिमंडल टिकाऊ नहीं बन सकेगा। उस स्थिति में जाति विशेष के लोग इसका विरोध करेंगे। आज भी यह हो रहा है। आज वहां पर मंत्रिमंडल के सदस्यों की संख्या कम है, 16 है। डा० जगन्नाथ मिश्र ने दूसरा तरीका निकाला है—लोगों को फंसा कर अपने साथ रखने का ताकि उनके अन्दर विरोधी पैदा न हों। उसके बावजूद विरोधी पैदा हो रहे हैं। आपस में वे लोग लड़ते हैं। जब ऐसा होता है तो राज्य का हित पीछे पड़ जाता है, व्यक्तिगत हित आगे आ जाता है। उस अवस्था में जनता की जो दिक्कतें हैं वे कैसे दूर हो सकती हैं। आपस में लड़ते हैं कि इस जाति का सदस्य मंत्रिमंडल में होना चाहिए, इसका नहीं होना चाहिए। मैं कहूंगा कि आप एक सिद्धान्त बना लें कि दस प्रतिशत से ज्यादा लोग मंत्रिमंडल में नहीं रखे जायेंगे। इसका फैसला करके आप बैस्ट टैलेंट को मंत्रिमंडल में लें, जो योग्य और अच्छे लोग हों, जो मंत्रिमंडल में आने लायक हों उनको आप लें। अभी जो तरीका है उसमें टैलेंटिड लोग नहीं लिये जाते हैं। गुट के आधार पर लोगों को लिया जाता है। भ्रष्ट लोगों को भी ले लिया जाता है। आप चाहें तो मैं नाम बता सकता हूं। बिहार में ऐसे लोगों को रखा गया जो 30–30 लाख रुपये रायल्टी के खा गये। तब कोयला खानों का राष्ट्रीयकरण नहीं हुआ था। वे उस समय इन खानों के मालिक थे। 30–30 लाख तब वे खा गये। फिर भी मंत्रिमंडल में आये। आज वे मंत्रिमंडल में नहीं हैं। उनको लेने की कोशिश बहुत हुई। लेकिन मैं आपको धन्यवाद देता हूं कि यहां केन्द्र में आप डट गये और कहा कि ऐसे लोगों को नहीं लिया जा सकता है। कहने का मतलब यह है कि आप एक सिद्धान्त निर्धारित करें ताकि मंत्रिमंडल भी ठीक हो और देश का भी हित हो। अगर अच्छे लोगों को नहीं लेंगे, हर ऐरे गैरे नत्थू खैरे को लेंगे तो आयाराम गयाराम की बीमारी दूर नहीं होगी। अपने सूबे की बात मैं आपको बता रहा था। हमारे सूबे में बहुत सी करपोरेशंज और कमेटीज बना दी गई हैं। वहां पर सोलह का तो मंत्रिमंडल है जिसमें 15 मंत्री हैं कबिनेट रैंक के और एक डिप्टी मिनिस्टर हैं और 35 से 40 कारपोरेशंज हैं, कमेटीज हैं। शायद इससे भी अधिक उनकी संख्या होगी। एम० एल० एज० को उनका मेम्बर और चेयरमैन बना दिया गया है। जो विरोध करता है उसको चेयरमैन बना दिया जाता है। वहां कुछ खाने पीने का इंतजाम हो गया। और अभी आप ने दो चेयरमैनों का हाल सुना, श्री नवल किशोर सिंह, एम०एल०ए०, चेयरमैन अर्बन कोआपरेटिव बैंक ....

संसदीय कार्य विभाग में उपमंत्री (श्री बी० शंकरानन्द) . आप को नाम नहीं लेना चाहिए।

श्री रामावतार शास्त्री : ठीक है, मैं नाम नहीं लूंगा। आप ने देखा कि उन्होंने क्या गोलमाल किया। 13 लाख ० उस बैंक का खा गया। पटना स्टेशन के नम्बर 1 प्लेटफार्म को गिरवी रख दिया। वह भागा-भागा फिर रहा है। कई लोग गिरफ्तार हुए।

सभापति महोदय . अब आप अगले दिन बोलियेगा।

Now the House stands adjourned to meet on Monday, the 30th August, 1976 at 11 hrs.

18 hrs.

The Lok Sabha then adjourned till Eleven of the Clock on Monday, August 30, 1976/Bhadra 8, 1898 (Saka).

GMGIPND—Lino—1668 L. S.—16-9-76—978